

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

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BIRTHS.

On the 16th July, 1900, at Weihaiwei, the wife of EVAN MATHEWS, of Tongshan, of a son (still-born).

On the 7th August, 1900, at Kobe, the wife of JOHN HALL OSBORNE, of Tientsin, of a son.

On the 9th August, 1900, at Tsingtao, Hotel Prinz Heinrich, the wife of H. SCHROETER, of Tientsin, of a son.

On the 20th August, 1900, at Shanghai, the wife of A. LAIDRICH, of Hankow, of a son.

On the 26th August, 1900, at No. 3, Mosque Junction, Hongkong, the wife of R. M. DE SOUZA, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On Thursday, the 5th July, at St. Peter's, Southborough, THOMAS JOHNSTONE BOURNE (A.M.L.C.E., Imperial Chinese Railways, Tientsin), youngest son of the late Rev. S. W. BOURNE, B.A., of Winfarthing, Diss, Norfolk, to EDITH MARY, youngest daughter of the late H. W. BRIDGES, Esq., of Mistley Dene, Southborough.

At 11 a.m., on 25th August, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Rev. R. F. Cobbold, JAMES S. BARBER, U.S.N., to MABLE F. WHILEY, of Hongkong.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 27th July arrived per M. M. steamer *Salazie*, on the 29th August (34 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The news of the week from the north and about Amoy will be found in the telegrams from our correspondents on p. 160.

The Czar has conferred the St. George Cross upon General Linevitch, the Commander-in-Chief of the Russian troops, for the relief of Peking.

The celebrated bacteriologist, Professor Koch, reached Hongkong from New Guinea this week and has gone on a visit to Canton, whence he will return to Hongkong and thence proceed home.

About a hundred and fifty officers of the British Army are expected to arrive in India next month to fill existing vacancies in British corps.

It is understood that Mr. G. Greville, H. B. M. Minister to Siam, will not return to Bangkok, but proceeds to Mexico to act as Minister there.

It is announced in the *London Gazette* that the Queen has been pleased to approve of Mr. W. Pritchard Morgan as Consul-General for Corea in London.

On the 28th ult. there was to have been a general illumination and a Fire Brigade Parade at Shanghai. It was subsequently announced that it had been postponed.

The German *Imperial Gazette* announces that the title of "Councillor of Legation" has been conferred upon Baron von der Goltz, interpreter to the German Legation in China.

The O. & O. s.s. *Coptic*, with the American mail, was detained ten days at Kobe, owing to a Chinaman developing plague on board, and therefore did not reach Nagasaki until the 29th ult.

Mr. George Jamieson, C.M.G., was to leave England for China on or about August 25, to undertake an important and delicate mission in connection with an Anglo-Chinese company of which he is a director.

On the 27th ult. French troops from Indo-China were disembarked at Shanghai to assist in the defence of the Settlements. On the 30th ult. 600 French marines, 160 Annamites, and a mountain battery were landed.

The German squadron under Admiral Geissler, consisting of the battleships *Kurfürst Friedrich Wilhelm*, *Brandenburg*, *Wörth*, and *Weissenburg*, and the despatch vessel *Hela*, which arrived in Hongkong early on the 28th ult., proceeded on its way north yesterday.

The *Courrier d'Haiphong* is responsible for the statement that the French Consul, doctor, and postmaster, who recently left Hoihow in consequence of the threatening aspect of affairs there, have received imperative orders to proceed to their posts immediately. The *Kersaint* has been sent to Hoihow for their protection.

This week all the native papers in Canton were suppressed by order of the local authorities and their offices were closed. The reason is variously stated, but it is believed that the main cause of offence was the reproduction from the Hongkong papers of the report that the Japanese had succeeded in capturing the Chinese Emperor.

H.M.S. *Esk* was paid off at Shanghai on Tuesday last, and recommissioned next day by Lieut. and Com. William F. Blunt, *vice* Lieut. and Com. Chadwick. Mr. James G. Watt succeeds Dr. Hugh S. Burniston as surgeon, while Sub-Lieut. A. C. Goolden and Gunner W. J. Johnson remain from the old commission.

According to a Nagasaki paper, the Mitsui Bishi Company has signed a contract with the American authorities in the Philippines to supply 60,000 tons of Japanese coal, which are to be delivered up at Manila in four months, for the use of American men-of-war and transports. Karatsu coal has been selected, and it is said that the first consignment of 5,000 tons is now ready for shipment.

The *Chinese Mail's* Shanghai correspondent telegraphed on the 29th ult. that Li Hung-chang had memorialised the Throne, suggesting that Prince Ching, Yung Lu, Liu Kung-yi, and Chang Chih-tung should be appointed to conduct negotiations with the Powers.

The Macao Government has issued a *Boletim* absolutely prohibiting the import or export of firearms in the colony. This regulation applies to sporting guns, and any one landing in Macao with such will be liable to be brought before the magistrate and have his guns confiscated.

Several of the leading firms in Moscow have received news that their warehouses of tea and silk at Kalgan have been plundered, and afterwards burned by Chinese rioters and troops. The goods taken away or destroyed are valued at 7,000,000 taels (about £1,167,000) reckoning the tael at 3s. 4d.

On the 26th ult. the steamer *Pioneer* reached Chungking after 24 steaming hours up the Yangtze from Ichang. She brought back with her to Chungking the British Consul, Mr. M. F. A. Fraser, the staff of the Imperial Maritime Customs, and several passengers. The staff of Chungking was reported to be very satisfactory.

The two young Siamese, selected by the King of Siam, whose departure from Bangkok for Europe to be trained in the German Army we have already noted, are the sons of the late H. R. H. Prince Krom Phra Chakrapatipongse, and the son of Laung Pityutanyong. One of the Siamese princes, H. R. H. Prince Chao Fa Chakrapongse, has gone on a visit to the Czar.

On the 30th ult. the s.s. *Australian* arrived in Hongkong, bringing with her the passengers from the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's s.s. *Futami Maru* which was wrecked off Cape Calavite, Mindoro, Philippine Islands, on the 17th ult. The *Futami Maru* left Sydney on the 2nd ult. with mails, specie, passengers and cargo, and met with a typhoon when nearing Mindoro. Details will be found in another column.

The British transports arriving at Hongkong in their way north during the week were the *Palamcotta*, *Lawada* (25th ult.), *Patiala*, *Salamis* (26th), *Ujina* (27th), *Nairung* (28th), *Formosa* (29th). The departures for the north were the *Fazilka* (25th ult.), *Palamcotta*, *Antillian*, *Lawada* (26th), *Ujina* (28th), *Formosa*, *Nairung* (30th), and *Salamis* (31st). The hospital ship *Carthage* left for Weihaiwei on the 28th.

On the 24th ult. a small Japanese Buddhist temple at Amoy was burnt and in consequence a party of armed Japanese with two maxim guns were unexpectedly landed at Amoy, afterwards crossing over to the Settlements at Kulangsu Island. They were followed on Sunday by one hundred and fifty more of their compatriots. The local Chinese, who had been perfectly quiet, were at a loss what to make of the Japanese action, and accused the Japanese of burning the temple themselves as an excuse for landing. On the night of the 28th ult. H.M.S. *Isis* sailed for Amoy, which she reached on the 29th ult., next day proceeding to land 70 marines in the British Concession. In the meantime the Japanese have despatched from Formosa an infantry battalion, a battery of artillery and a company of engineers. A state of panic prevails in Amoy and half the Chinese population has left.

THE ENTRY INTO PEKING.

(Daily Press, 25th August.)

At last, after having to content ourselves as best we could for a whole week with the news that the Allies had succeeded in entering Peking and rescuing the survivors at the Legations, we have received a few details of the arrival of the combined troops at the Chinese capital. The actual date of the arrival outside the walls of Peking is, by the telegram of our Shanghai correspondent, appearing in our issue of Friday, put back from the 15th to the 13th instant, but the Imperial City was not entered until the later date. The Legation garrison, however, was reached on the 14th instant, after an early attack made by the Russian troops had failed. The British and Americans, it appears, had the honour of being the first to fight their way through. It is clear that, though a certain amount of resistance was offered to the entry of the Allies, full advantage was not taken of the strength of the city. The heart of the defenders must have failed them, before the Allies got within touch of Peking, at the time when the Empress Dowager and Court decided to desert the city. This they did on the 11th (the day on which the Allies reached Matou), dragging with them, it seems, the Emperor as an unwilling companion. It is to be feared that no dependence can be put in the reports that the Japanese succeeded in capturing the Empress Dowager, and we must wait confirmation for last night's rumour about the Emperor. It is curious that so far the authorities up north have carefully kept from the public knowledge the names of the survivors, which all the world is anxiously waiting to hear. We have the figures, indeed, from our correspondent's telegram, which give the dead as 67 and the wounded at 120. From this it appears that since the 16th of July only five deaths have occurred, for Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD on that date reported that 62 in all had been killed since the attack on the Legations commenced. Since the so-called armistice on the 16th ult. it will probably be found that the fierceness of the attacks considerably abated; although this armistice was never properly observed by the Chinese, any more than were the other engagements made to the Ministers. But the policy of uniform treachery failed equally with the most vigorous assaults to reduce the garrison, and the precipitate flight of the rulers left the besiegers without any plan of action, so that when they were threatened in their turn with siege and assault they were practically powerless to devise any means of resistance. It may turn out that the Allies met with more difficulties in the final stage of their journey than we have yet been told; but it looks at present as if the march, begun in circumstances of great difficulty and danger, ended in a most successful rush toward the goal.

It seems that Major Dobell, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, had some difficulty in catching the *Antillian* which he at last overtook at Singapore on its way to Hongkong. He hurried from Port Elizabeth to Durban, just in time to hear that the *Antillian* had gone. There was another steamer in quarantine about to leave for Ceylon, actually starting. He borrowed a boat, abandoned most of his baggage, and started in pursuit. After a row of about three miles, the steamer stopped and wanted to know what the trouble was. Major Dobell said he had to go to China and he meant to go. On his arrival at Singapore by the German mail yesterday, the *Antillian* was just on the point of leaving the wharf. Major Dobell was informed of this, packed in a brace of shakes and got on board by the skin of his teeth, glad to be amongst the detachment of his regiment bound for this port.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL REFORM FOR CHINA.

Referring to the capture of Peking by the Allies the Hoppo of Canton a few days ago telegraphed to some of his subordinates that the embankments between Tientsin and Peking had been cut, the country flooded, the greater number of the allied troops drowned, but that 1,000 or 2,000 (it does not matter which) Americans had been permitted to go to Peking and escort the Ministers out of that city, as China was anxious to treat all nations with equity! The inference is, and it is understood in that way by the recipients of the telegram, that America having in the past had no trouble with China, she is consequently the least objectionable of the "foreign devils," and so her troops were permitted access to the sacred city. This story is as gravely accepted as it is told, and the task of attempting to bring home the actual situation to such cast-iron ignorance and conceit—short of knocking each individual man's house about his ears—is well nigh hopeless. There is one way, and one way only, in which the Chinese officials can be made to feel that the day has come when civilised powers will decide the policy of the Empire which they have so misgoverned, and that is—to come to the point bluntly—by stopping their pay. Slaughter their wretched soldiers, knock their cities about their ears, insist on Peking degrading them from office, and yet, as experience has shown in the past, they will continue to act as if nothing had happened. Cut off or rather regulate their cash supplies and you touch them in their vital spot and bring home to their minds with irresistible force the fact that they have got to change their ways. Up to date, the only nation that appears to have grasped this elementary fact are the Russians, who as reported from Newchwang have arranged for the Imperial Maritime Customs to collect revenue there as before, but that the sums of money so collected are to be retained until such time as a settlement is arrived at. It is a drastic way of doing it, but the result of military occupation generally does partake of that nature, and there is not the slightest doubt that every official and *yamen* hanger-on who depended for his livelihood on the contribution made from the revenue collected by the Customs will fully appreciate, now that his supplies are cut off, the fact that the Russians are in actual possession of that part of China. It is not impossible that the fear of a similar control of the Shanghai funds has induced the Yangtze Viceroy to maintain the attitude of neutrality which up to date they have wisely adopted. But such action as that of Russia at Newchwang can at the best only be a temporary measure called into existence by the exigencies of the times; with the re-introduction of settled government the problem of an honest fiscal administration will call for prompt treatment. In a word, financial reorganization of the Empire is the task the Powers must face. Given that, all else will follow. Importation of the vast quantities of arms which have served to encourage lawlessness, not repress it, would cease for the want of funds, and because under an honest Customs administration their importation would be well nigh impossible. In this connection it is a question well worth the consideration of the Powers whether, in the first place, a general disarmament throughout China should not be insisted on; and, secondly, whether the importation of munitions of war of all kinds should not be prohibited entirely henceforward? The former would not be a difficult task as far as the dismantling of forts, the

sale of warships and material, etc., belonging to the Imperial or Provincial governments goes; the chief difficulty would be with the people, the great bulk of whom, and more especially in the southern provinces, possess arms. But even that could be effected if sufficient firmness were shown. The greatest delinquents in respect to the trade in the arms are the various guilds or societies who, under the pretence of arming "trained bands" for local protection, obtain large numbers of rifles and ammunition under official sanction, and from their hands these filter through to the various bands of villagers who, quite content at ordinary times to be such, are, when the occasion serves, also quite ready to take part in the pirating of a vessel, the looting of a mission station or the murder of a foreigner. These guilds could be called upon by the various Viceroy to collect arms in their neighbourhood and deliver them up within a certain time. The Powers would have to be ready to insist on this by force if necessary, and the penalty for carrying arms should be made an extremely heavy one, with the certainty of its infliction not only on the individual but also on the whole town or village concerned. We are inclined to think the chances of, and, perhaps, the results from, a general uprising throughout China have been over-estimated, due largely to the somewhat unexpected resistance offered by the Chinese foreign-drilled troops to the advance of the Allies on Peking; but, as Admiral LANG lately pointed out, these foreign-drilled troops are, at the most, not in any great numbers; the backbone of their resistance has been broken and the mere rabble which constitute the balance of the soldiery of China are not capable of opposing for any length of time the force which the Allies would be prepared to bring against them. An order then from the Central Government of China, backed by the Allied fleet, would easily secure the dismantling of the defences such as the Bogue, the Woosung and Kiang Tin forts, and that completed a force of from fifteen to twenty thousand men prepared to move to any part of China to insist on the Central Authority being obeyed would be sufficient to bring about a general disarmament amongst the people. The nation at large once disarmed, the introduction of financial reform would be less opposed by the scarcely veiled threats of the officials that riots are sure to result from the introduction of any such measures. But even without disarmament the introduction of financial reform is not such a difficult question as it is commonly represented to be, provided the Powers will take the matter up in earnest. England might during the past twenty years have accomplished a great deal in this way had her efforts been inspired by a settled and fixed policy; but to day it is too late for her to think of acting alone, notwithstanding the fact that her interests vastly preponderate over those of all other nationalities. She can, however, still take the lead, and combining with those other Powers whose policy is based on lines parallel to her own, secure the introduction of the principles of free trade as against those of protection; and not the least important aid to the introduction of those principles is the right already granted by the Chinese Government to vessels of all nationalities to navigate the internal waters on a footing of equality. In this right the British Government possessed a lever capable of raising the weight of official obstruction and corruption which strangles the trade of the country, but, as unfortunately has always been the case in the past, our Government utterly failed to grasp the importance of the

opportunity thus presented to them. This right of navigation pressed home, as it should have been two years ago, may even yet be made the means of extending British interests and the British sphere of influence, and what of a necessity follows free trade principle. But before that can be done the attitude of the Government towards our merchants must be changed from that hitherto adopted; an attitude which was exemplified by Lord SALISBURY's deliberate declaration of policy and which the Shanghai correspondent of the *Times* justly characterised as the old policy of the repression of the British merchant.

THE QUESTION OF CHINA'S PARTITION.

(Daily Press, 30th August.)

At the present period of the Chinese crisis it is interesting to read certain remarks on the future of China made by M. PIERRE LEROY-BEAULIEU in an excellent little volume entitled *La Renovation de l'Asie*, recently published in Paris. M. LEROY-BEAULIEU is an exceptionally clear-sighted and impartial observer of Asiatic affairs and his book may be read with profit by all interested in the Far Eastern question. The part of it to which we wish to draw particular attention is the final chapter, in which he discusses the possibility of a division of the Empire. We must be pardoned if we make a rather long extract from the author's remarks on this subject. "Are we destined," he asks, "soon to see a dismemberment of the 'Middle Empire'? No one at heart really desires this. The division of this heritage 'over which at least five or six heirs are watching will not easily be accomplished 'by friendly arrangement, and the law-suits of nations are decided by artillery. For 'twenty-five years continental Europe has trembled at the idea of a war. What wonder that the whole world shrinks before the war caused by the break-up of 'China, which would be far more terrible, 'would indeed be universal, for Great Britain, Japan, and the United States 'would participate as well as the continental 'Powers? Even granting that it be possible to settle the whole matter peacefully, 'what country feels ready to govern eight 'or a hundred million Chinese? It may 'be said that it is enough not to govern 'them overmuch. But is not this precisely the most difficult task for an 'European administration, whose policy 'is always to pay close attention to the 'details and to act by rules? To-day if 'there are in some corner of China a few 'bands of brigands, scarcely any attention 'is paid to them; but when such a corner 'becomes an European colony, the rulers 'will desire to re-establish order, and in so 'doing may perhaps provoke an insurrection. The introduction of our European 'methods cannot but disturb a number of 'old customs, shock many of the traditions 'to which the Celestials are so firmly attached." M. LEROY-BEAULIEU points to the tact required in the government of Hongkong and Singapore, and the serious troubles in connection with the French Settlement at Shanghai, and continues: "In a larger area the prolonged difficulties 'felt in pacifying countries imbued with 'Chinese civilisation, as by the English in 'Burma, the French in Tonkin, the Japanese in Formosa, show against what 'obstacles each foreign nation will run in 'its slice of China."

The author's point of view, though not a new one, is the only sound one, and nothing can be lost by a reiteration of such arguments as he advances at the present time,

when it is to be feared that there are many waverers from the policy of non-partition in England. As M. LEROY-BEAULIEU says, the Powers recoil before the consequences of a partition, but they fear that if they do not hasten to appropriate what they wish for themselves some swifter rival will mark out for itself the lion's share. This is the possible explanation of the Japanese action at Amoy. It is not so much that any one nation wishes to cut up China at once (unless it be Russia, and she is not yet ready, with the Trans-Siberian line incomplete), but none wish to be left out when the cutting up takes place, if it must. All the more necessary, therefore, is it for those who see the inevitable ill results to come from a dismemberment of China to be firm. If Japan has been frightened into deserting the "open door" party (which we are loth to believe), still more it is incumbent on Great Britain to maintain her position. The United States have the same interest as ourselves in supporting this policy, but in election time the States are proverbially uncertain. Russia and therefore, of course, France are ranged on the other side. Italy and Austria are bound by the Triple Alliance to Germany, and Germany's action is very problematical. Commercially Germany's interests point in the same direction as those of all trading nations, but it is well known that Germany's political attitude towards Russia has been growing recently more and more friendly. In event of a decided split between the Powers it is not easy to predict what Germany's action would be. The desire to avoid European complications would weigh very heavily with the German Emperor. The position is very delicate, and the state of affairs has made many regret that it was considered necessary to land the Indian troops at Shanghai, a step which has led to considerable misconception. Since, however, the authorities, with the lesson of Tientsin before them, decided after long deliberation that the step was necessary, it must be admitted that they erred, if error there were, in the right direction. Unfortunately at the present time motives are bound to be misconstrued, and fears are too frequently taken for realities. With foresight, good faith, and patience only, on the part of the rulers of the Powers, can the present crisis be handled to the honour of all.

THE JAPANESE ACTION AT AMOY.

(Daily Press, 28th August.)

The puzzling news which reached us from Amoy on Saturday and Sunday last is now supplemented by the letter from our correspondent which we publish in to-day's issue. From this it appears that early on Friday morning, the 24th instant, a small house in the city, which had been converted into a temple by the Japanese Buddhists who carry on their propaganda in Amoy, was burnt down. Within two hours' time, at 4 a.m., some sixty armed Japanese sailors were landed on Haimun Island, on which Amoy is built, from one of the Japanese warships in the harbour—the cruiser *Takachiho*, it may be noted, having arrived on the 18th inst. These sailors, after marching to the scene of the fire, returned and crossed the harbour to Kulangsu Island, about a third of a mile away, where nearly all the foreign residences are to be found and where the Japanese Settlement itself is. During Friday the Settlements were paraded by the Japanese sailors with bayonets fixed. On Sunday, apparently, one hundred and fifty more Japanese were landed and entered the native city. The Chinese are described as

being unable to understand the action of the Japanese, and though some alleged "Boxer" placards have been produced the Japanese are accused of having posted these up themselves. Moreover, the burning of the temple is also laid to the charge of the Japanese themselves with a view to having a pretext to land. Our correspondent seems inclined to agree with the Chinese view and points out that the natives are perfectly quiet. It may be remembered that earlier in the month it was reported that some turbulent Foochow secret society men had been arrested at Amoy. Nothing, however, appears to have come of this affair, as we have heard no more about it. It is possible that the Japanese, who take a peculiar interest in Fokien, may have seen enough appearance of unrest in the neighbourhood of Amoy to cause them genuine uneasiness, and the possession of interests in any part of China has a wonderfully quickening effect on the power of detecting danger. It is plain from the Japanese Press that the British action in landing troops at Shanghai has had a considerable effect on public opinion in Japan. Nor was the earlier occupation by the Russian troops of Newchwang native city overlooked by Japan. It is certain that a strong party in the Island Empire is watching for signs of a coming scramble for Chinese territory, in which they do not intend their country to be left out. In view of the suspicion with which the European Powers look on one another's proceedings it is hardly possible to expect Japan to manifest more trustfulness in the disinterested action of the Europeans. Since the departure of the U.S.S. *Princeton* Amoy has been left almost entirely under Japanese protection in case of emergency. The last European warship to call at the port was, as far as we know, the French gunboat *Alouette*, which reached Amoy on the 21st inst. on her way to Shanghai. H.M.S. *Isis* left our harbour yesterday for a cruise. Is it possible her cruise can be extended to Amoy? If suspicion is rightly entertained of Japanese motives, the presence of a man-of-war of some European nation would have a reassuring effect on the minds of the Amoy residents.

A LESSON IN COMBINED ACTION.

(Daily Press, 27th August.)

It is sometimes instructive as well as interesting to look back in the pages of history, and find what under very similar circumstances has been done in previous times. The Marquis de Moles's account of the war in China in 1857-58 is an instance of how two great nations with common wrongs to redress can, by a little yielding on each side, conduct to a successful issue a question comprising so many different interests as a war in China. Both France and England had in 1856 wrongs to redress in many respects not unlike those agitating the two nations to-day. "Between Great Britain and 'the Celestial Empire there had long been 'differences and disputes, which, increasing 'in importance from day to day, at last 'terminated in a sudden rupture. . . . The 'French could not remain inactive while 'events of such magnitude were taking 'place in the far East. It was proper and 'necessary that they should take a part 'both in the diplomatic and military proceedings. They had besides, on their own 'account, insults to avenge and just causes 'of complaint for which to demand redress." There was here as good a ground for quarrels and jealousies as in the present trouble, but the way in which France then set about her task was very different. Both nations deter-

mined to undertake the work of adjustment in common, and threw their influence and power into a common channel. The two nations that had found themselves fighting side by side in the Crimea again decided that they should in China afford one another mutual support; and as a consequence the work which both had in hand was accomplished to their mutual satisfaction, and at a much less cost to either than if they had been all the while indulging in mutual recriminations and jealousies. But then France had not determined to dissociate herself from the common opinion of Europe; and this little fact made all the difference. For a moment mutual jealousies were forgotten, and as time went on each felt more and more how much more they had in common rather than how much they differed in detail. Yet in 1900 we are not, as we were forty-four years ago, fighting with China as a nation. Then the troubles of both were with the Empire, while to-day we have to redress wrongs committed, not by China as a whole, but by a comparatively insignificant faction who have dared to set aside the legitimate government of the Empire, and substitute in its place the rule of the faction of disorder. In fact the trouble we have to face is not now a Chinese one; the Chinese people as a whole has pretty well ascertained the nature of the patriotism of the Boxers, and their protectors at headquarters, and is well content that matters should settle down and the Emperor reassume his throne. For what has been done in the rescue of the Ministers they bear no grudge against the foreign troops, but they ask, What is to be the result? Proceedings such as those of the Russians at Newchwang, and the unseemly janglings of the French at Shanghai, are not calculated to inspire confidence. Nor is the prospect brightened when from local indications we turn to Europe, and we hear M. DELCASSE adopting the schoolboy formula, "me and my big brother." We are not at war with China; nor do we desire to act as if we were, and the danger lies in the persistence with which our continental neighbours are seeking to assume that a case of war exists, in which, as interested parties, they feel called upon to take a hand. Primarily the Government of China is a thing for the Chinese, and we have no more concern with it than to see our treaties faithfully observed, and our nationals protected; when this desirable consummation after a long struggle seemed at last about to take place, a small section of irreconcilables took on themselves to suppress the Government, and formed a plot to exterminate every foreigner in the land, without regard to nationality. A very extensive series of massacres, involving fully a hundred innocent victims, has already taken place, and attempts to murder the regularly accredited representatives of foreign Powers, whose persons by the immemorial practice of nations, including China herself, are sacred, necessitated the employment of force to relieve them. The legitimate Government had, in fact, applied to us for moral support in its distress, but, like the Pharisee of old, we had crossed over the road and left it weltering in its own blood. Now what is there in all this to provoke the very unseemly display of snarling and tooth-showing to which we have been introduced? We are all, by our professions at least, actuated by the best of motives, and do not desire to sully our aims by a suspicion of plunder; yet we act as if each thought his neighbour little better than a highway robber. There is a case, as SHAKESPEARE reminds us, where "conscience makes cowards of us all," and surely did we not feel the itching

strong upon ourselves, we should not be so ready to find it in others. Unfortunately in those few instances where nations have had recourse to the new-fangled theory of arbitration the result has in even fewer instances been such as restore harmony; and in this Peking outrage where every nationality stands as a prosecutor, there is not one left to try the issue, and we can only appeal to the finer instincts of Europe. In the case of Crete two years ago an international occupation was found possible. It is of course not desirable too frequently to repeat a condition which needs the very highest temper and statesmanship to bring to a successful completion without involving an international war. But in both this case and the earlier example of the Anglo-French occupation in 1859-64, there are instances to show that the present condition need not of itself lead to unfriendly acts.

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

SHANGHAI, 24th August, 9.31 p.m.

It is reported that the Japanese have captured the Emperor eighty miles north-west of Peking. Yung Lu is at Paotingfu.

Chang Chih-tung has executed thirty reformers, alleging the discovery of a plot to burn Hankow. The Reform Committee insists that the victims had gone to Hankow to restrain the Kolaohui Society men.

There is some fear now of trouble in the Yangtze Vally before long.

Thirty-five warships in all are now here or at Woosung.

AMOI, 25th August, 3.20 p.m.

One hundred armed Japanese with two machine guns have landed at the British Concession, Amoy, and entered the city. The object of this action is unknown.

AMOI, 26th August, 6.30 p.m.

One hundred and fifty more Japanese have landed here below the British Concession and entered the city. The local Chinese are quiet and are unable to understand the present proceedings of the Japanese. The warships have changed their positions.

SHANGHAI, 26th August, 10.44 p.m.

No late news has arrived from Peking except the intimation that more troops are wanted.

No reports as to the location of the Imperial refugees are reliable; those issued are intended to mislead the foreigners.

Chang Chih-tung has executed numerous reformers on the absurd charge of rebellion.

The French troops from the South are landing in Shanghai to-morrow (Monday).

Both Councils have decided to illuminate the Settlements on Tuesday. There will be a Parade of the Firemen to celebrate the relief of Peking.

SHANGHAI, 27th August, 9.22 p.m.

The *Pioneer*, with Consul Fraser, the Customs staff, and other passengers on board, arrived at Chungking on Sunday after a voyage of sixty-four sailing hours from Ichang.

Affairs have now assumed a more settled aspect, and at Chungking all is reported well.

DAITOTEI, FORMOSA, 29th August, 11 a.m.

One battalion of Japanese infantry, one battery of artillery, and one company of engineers, making in all 1,300 men, were despatched to Amoy to-day.

AMOI, 30th August, 10.45 a.m.

H. M. S. *Isis* arrived here yesterday and the Japanese cruiser *Tsukushi* came in this morning. The exodus continues and half the population of Amoy has left in panic.

The city is almost deserted, business is at a standstill, and gangs of thieves are busy at work. The Japanese action is directly responsible for this state of affairs.

AMOI, 30th August, 3.25 p.m.

At 2.30 p.m. to-day H.M.S. *Isis* landed 70 armed marines in the British Concession. Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's godown is serving them as barracks.

SUPREME COURT.

28th August.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

CAPTAIN RAYMOND AND THE FILIPINOS.

M. M. Perez and Crisanto Lichauco brought an action against Captain A. M. Raymond for an account of money received, viz. \$700, and Captain Raymond brought an action against M. M. Perez and Crisanto Lichauco for breach of contract. It was decided to hear both actions together.

Mr. E. H. Sharp (instructed by Messrs. Deacon and Hastings) appeared for Captain Raymond, and Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) for the other parties.

Mr. Slade said that Perez and Lichauco were husband and wife. He understood that it was a Spanish custom for the wife to retain her maiden name, sometimes with the addition of her husband's name at the end of it. Sometime towards the end of last year Mrs. Lichauco, as he would call her, made some arrangements with some friend of hers in the Philippines to see about getting two launches which were being completed in Hongkong sent over to the Philippines. She, as a matter of fact, did nothing in the matter, her husband conducting the negotiations. Sometime in December he approached Captain Raymond with reference to his taking these two launches from Hongkong to the Philippines. Of course it was well known at the time to all parties that it was not quite a simple thing to send a launch belonging to a Filipino from Hongkong to the Philippines, and accordingly it was arranged between Lichauco and Raymond that the latter, who claimed to be an American subject, should get clearances for these launches, and that when he had got the clearances he should take charge of the launches and captain them to Manila. Subject to that condition an agreement was entered into. This agreement (which Mr. Slade read) stated that \$700 per launch was to be paid to Captain Raymond in Hongkong and an additional \$400 per launch when the launches reached Manila, Raymond to make all arrangements as to the crew and to pay them. That being the agreement entered into apparently Captain Raymond made efforts to get clearance for the *Patrie* from the American Consul, but failed to do so. The American Consul sent for Lichauco, and told him he should require a declaration of neutrality before he could give a clearance. Lichauco subsequently wrote to the American Consul a letter declaring the peaceful character of the launches, but the American Consul refused to clear. With regard to the \$700, while these negotiations for the clearance were going on, Raymond asked for an advance, and \$700 was advanced to him. One reason given by Raymond for asking for the advance was that coal was cheap just then, and he also wanted some money for himself. At the time the loan was made it was clearly understood that in the event of their being unable to clear the launches the coal purchased by a portion of this \$700 should be handed to Lichauco together with the balance of the money, but the balance had not yet been handed over by Raymond.

Crisanto Lichauco, in his evidence, gave particulars of the negotiations entered into between

him and Captain Raymond. He said he did not want to sign a written contract until he was quite sure that the launches were going to Manila. At the beginning of January Captain Raymond spoke to his interpreter, Mr. Marti, and requested him to ask him to sign a written agreement to assure his services in case the launches could be sent to Manila. It was agreed that if he sold the launches in Hongkong or if the launches could not be sent to Manila the agreement should be treated as cancelled. Captain Raymond undertook to see to the clearance, as he said he was an American subject. He undertook to get the clearance without any extra charge for his trouble. Witness was only to pay for the consular fees. Witness formerly took a prominent part in Filipino affairs.

Mr. Sharp—I believe we are quite prepared to admit that the reason why the American Consul objected to grant a clearance was because Lichauco was a Filipino subject.

Mr. Slade—Very well; that is satisfactory; it saves time.

Witness, continuing, said that after the contract was signed Captain Raymond asked him to advance him \$700. He did not like doing so at first until the clearance was obtained, but Captain Raymond said that as coal was cheap just then he wished to lay in a stock and he also wished to pay off some debts. The Captain promised that if the launches were not cleared or if they were sold in Hongkong he would hand over the coal and the balance of the \$700 to Lichauco. Witness had had the coal but not the balance of the money.

In reply to Mr. Sharp, witness said it was not until after Captain Raymond undertook to see to the clearance papers that he signed the contract. He attached very great importance to the arrangement about Captain Raymond getting the papers, and yet there was no mention of it in the contract nor was it referred to in any letters which subsequently passed between the parties.

Mr. Rounseville Wildman, Consul-General for the United States, said he had never seen Captain Raymond's passport, but he believed he was an American subject. He did not remember the date on which Capt. Raymond came to him to clear the launch for Manila. He came to the conclusion that Mr. Lichauco was not taking the launch to Manila for a good purpose, and refused to clear it. When Capt. Raymond said he wanted a clearance witness said he must bring the owner, but he did not seem to know who the owner was. Lichauco had represented the launch to belong to a woman in Manila, who turned out to be his wife. He instructed Capt. Raymond to bring Mrs. Lichauco to the Consulate but she never appeared. After the refusal Raymond visited the Consulate several times, but the clearance was never granted.

In answer to Mr. Slade, Mr. Wildman said Captain Raymond desired the clearance in his own name.

In answer to Mr. Sharp, Mr. Wildman said he did not say that Raymond said the launches were his, but that he wanted the clearance in his own name. Capt. Raymond had taken launches several times before to Manila.

Mr. Marti said he was a merchant in Hongkong and was acquainted with Mr. Lichauco. He acted as interpreter between Captain Raymond and Lichauco. He copied the agreement from an agreement in the possession of Captain Raymond. At first the latter wanted \$1,200 for each launch, but finally agreed to accept \$1,100. The Captain said he would do his best to clear the launches, as he would pass as an American or a British subject. He showed two papers, one showing him to be an American subject and the other a British master mariner. Witness gave evidence as to the advance of \$700 to Captain Raymond. He heard nothing about the cancelling of the agreement in case the launches did not go.

In reply to Mr. Sharp, witness said he was a Filipino of Spanish descent. He was not aware that his name was on a list of suspects. He did not think it likely that he could return to the Philippines.

Mr. Sharp then addressed the court on behalf of Captain Raymond. He said that about the first of December last year Captain Raymond was introduced to Lichauco by Lichauco's brother with a view to his taking two launches to Manila. The outcome of this introduction was that a verbal arrangement was come to between

Lichauco and the Captain, the latter being ordered to prepare the *Patrie* for sea, he himself to go on board to take charge. On the 25th December Lichauco told him to engage a crew, and he did so. Stores were also put on board. Subsequently the launch was inspected by the parties and a written agreement signed, Mrs. Lichauco's name being put in. Raymond put on board \$210 worth of coal and the crew were put on board and paid half wages, \$135 being given to them and \$57 expended in their food; \$300 was advanced to Raymond for expenses and also to pay off some debts of his. About the 5th or 6th of January the Captain went up to the American Consulate for a clearance paper, but one was refused him. Lichauco also went and was unsuccessful. The Captain was willing to take the launches now and would go to-day if he had the papers. He would have made about \$1,100 out of the transaction, and would have completed the job by the end of January. By waiting for these two launches he lost a job of taking a launch to Manila which would have put \$700 in his pocket.

Captain Raymond then gave evidence in corroboration of his counsel's statement.

Leung Tai Shun, who described himself as a "broker to get sailors," said he remembered Captain Raymond coming to him on the 25th December last and ordering him to get some men on board the launch by the 27th. The crew remained on board from the 27th December to the 27th January. During that time he paid the crew \$135 as wages and paid \$57 for their food. Captain Raymond paid him this money. He was present with Captain Raymond and others at an inspection of the *Patrie* on the 4th January. There were present Captain Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. Lichauco, Marti, and himself. When he reached the *Patrie* he found the crew still on the launch and stores were on board and the launch was ready to proceed. He heard the captain say they would go soon, and Lichauco said the ship would go soon—in two or three days.

Mr. Sharp again addressed the court at some length on behalf of Captain Raymond. He pointed out that the agreement of the 4th of January was merely a repetition of a verbal agreement previously come to between Lichauco and Raymond, on the strength of which Captain Raymond purchased stores, etc., employed a crew, and incurred other expenses before the agreement was signed. The Captain's claim for \$500 included \$265 as payment for his own services.

Mr. Slade also addressed the court again. The Acting Puisne Judge reserved his decision.

29th August.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G. (CHIEF JUSTICE).

SZE FO SHING V. SIT YEE.

In this case (adjudged from the 15th August) the plaintiff is a trader, and carries on business as a foreign goods dealer at No. 265, Queen's Road Central, the defendant being a widow residing at 30, Albany Street, Wanchai. The claim is for specific performance of an agreement dated the 12th day of January, 1900, for the sale by the defendant to the plaintiff of three houses, Nos. 45, 47, and 49, Ship Street.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, Q.C. (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., and Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Mr. Bowley) for the defendant.

The case for the plaintiff being concluded, Mr. Francis addressed the court on behalf of the defendant. He said he entirely denied that any negotiations between the plaintiff and the defendant took place after the making of the contract, about being ready and willing to complete it. It was not until after the Chinese New Year that the price of land advanced at Wanchai. There was a clear binding agreement that the plaintiff should complete the contract, and if it was not completed the existing contract came to an end and a fresh one entered into. The contract would certainly have to be a renewal of the old one, but it would differ in terms. Time was the essence of the contract. If the plaintiff did not complete the contract by the end of

January he had to pay the defendant another \$1,000. If his Lordship found that the plaintiff took no steps to complete the contract, nor had the \$1,000, then the case must be concluded in the defendant's favour.

Witnesses for the defence were then called and the case was further adjourned.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

On Thursday afternoon, the 30th ult., the usual fortnightly meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board was held. Dr. Bell (Vice-president, and Acting Principal Medical Officer) presided, and there were also present Mr. Tooker (Acting Director of Public Works), Dr. Hartigan, Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. J. McKie, Mr. E. Osborne, Mr. Fung Wa Chuen, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

THE LATE LIEUT.-COL. RYAN, R. A. M. C.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said that before proceeding with the order of the day he wished to bring forward a resolution of regret at the loss they had sustained by the death of one of their members. Since the Board met last Colonel Ryan, R. A. M. C., had succumbed to an attack of pneumonia. As they all knew Colonel Ryan took a great interest in Sanitary matters in Hongkong. He was a prominent member of the Board, and the Board could ill afford to lose a member, especially when that member was a medical man, and one who had served in one of the best medical schools in the world. He begged to move that the Board express its deep regret at the death of Colonel Ryan of the Royal Army Medical Corps.

Dr. Hartigan said he had deep regret in seconding. Colonel Ryan took a very great interest in everything which went on there, and at the time of his death was actually preparing a scheme for the better battling with plague in the colony. He was a man of very distinguished service in the army, and there was one thing which he did of which he believed none of the members were aware—it had certainly not appeared in the papers—and which he thought deserved the highest recognition. When stationed in Crete he got notice from some of his Indian servants that an attack by Bashi Bashouks was being contemplated on the hospital. He applied to the General in command for a guard to defend the Hospital. His application was refused, and he said at once, "I am not going to see my men slaughtered," and—as he was entitled to—he applied for rifles. The men who were hardly able to get out of bed held rifles at the windows, whilst others who were stronger held them outside. The attack came on and was repulsed. He got this not from the Colonel himself, because he never boasted, but from officers of the Garrison who were aware of the circumstances. The Colonel was never even thanked for his work. The whole report was burned. Instead of his getting the Distinguished Service Order, as he undoubtedly should have done, he got nothing. Their small mark of recognition would show that they had done what they could in a small way in recognition of his services.

The proposition was carried.

THE PROPOSED DAIRY BYE-LAWS.

The proposed Dairy Bye-laws submitted at the previous meeting were again laid before the Board.

The Bye-laws were gone through, each one being considered separately. Several alterations were decided upon, and it was decided to publish them before they are submitted to the law officers of the Crown and to supply the dairy keepers with copies.

THE INSPECTOR'S QUARTERS AT KENNEDY-TOWN.

Dr. HARTIGAN said he rose to a point of order to request the Chairman to take out of the list of confidential business "No. 4—the letter from the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon re the Inspectors' quarters at Kennedy-town." He had spoken to two of the unofficial members and they agreed with him that it would be much better to discuss the matter in public.

Mr. MCKIE seconded, and Mr. OSBORNE supported, and the motion was carried.

The papers relating to the matter were then submitted.

Dr. HARTIGAN moved that the Government be requested to provide suitable quarters for the Inspector at the Cattle Depot, the house at Kennedy-town now occupied by him, being most unhealthy and in its present condition unfit for human habitation. This matter had been under discussion for some two or three years and yet the Government had done nothing. Every man who had lived in this particular house had been ill. Inspector Watson, when he left and went to the markets, was not ill for 18 months, but when he returned he was taken ill and was at present in hospital with fever. It was perfectly impossible for a man in the Inspector's position to do his work satisfactorily if he was ill every day. The place was actually saturated with malaria. It was most important that the man should be thoroughly well up in his work and thoroughly well able to do it. As to the state of the place, he was down there the previous day and made a careful examination. The house was built right in the angle of the hill. It had got a bank on three sides and the fourth side was facing a valley through which no air came. In fact the only air he got was practically poisonous air from a little stream in the valley, and the breeze from the sea was cut off from the house.

The VICE-PRESIDENT thought it would be better to have a definite suggestion to make. He thought there was no question that the man suffered from malaria, but he thought it would be better if he were to move a resolution that a small committee of the board, composed chiefly of medical men, because nobody else knew anything about malarial sites—

Mr. McKIE—I rise to a point of order, sir. We do know a little bit about malarial sites.

The VICE-PRESIDENT—Thank you, perhaps you do, but I think it would be better to have a small committee; perhaps Mr. McKie would be on. The Inspector must live down there, and it would be very much better to go down there, make an inspection, and bring a definite proposition before the Government. Putting on another storey is no good. At any rate I think—

Dr. HARTIGAN—I have not proposed another storey. I purposely left that out. I left it an open question.

The VICE-PRESIDENT—Your motion is to provide suitable quarters?

Dr. HARTIGAN—Simply to provide suitable quarters.

The VICE-PRESIDENT—Very well, I am out of order.

Mr. McKIE, in seconding Dr. Hartigan's motion, said he would not let his boy or Chinese servants live in the house occupied by Inspector Watson. It was not nearly so well ventilated as the sheds in which the cattle were housed.

Mr. OSBORNE strongly supported the motion.

Mr. TOOKER agreed with the Vice-President that it would be better to have some definite proposal to present to the Government, and ultimately the motion was withdrawn and one proposed by the Vice-President was carried. It was to the effect that Dr. Hartigan, Mr. McKie, and Dr. Clark be appointed a committee to go down to Kennedy-town and look round and pick a site and recommend it to Government.

THE CLOSING OF THE TUNG WA BRANCH PLAQUE HOSPITAL.

The following letter, dated August 8th, from the Tung Wa Hospital directors to the Acting Colonial Secretary, was submitted:—

"It will be exactly three months on the 12th instant since the matsheds at Kennedy-town were opened to receive plague patients, and the expenses up to date amount to about \$4,500, including the cost of repairs. During these three months there have been admitted altogether 219 patients, of whom 18 were cured and 196 died, leaving five still under treatment, and all these five are convalescent and can be discharged soon. As the plague has now almost entirely disappeared and in view of the expenses being so heavy, I shall feel greatly obliged if you will kindly let me know whether the matsheds should be closed before the fourth month commences."

APPLICATION FOR THE RETENTION OF A TROUGH WATER-CLOSET.

An application was submitted for the retention of a trough water-closet of five seats at the Military East Block of married quarters.

The following minutes were appended:—

Mr. McKie:—"I agree with the views expressed by Dr. Hartigan."

Dr. Hartigan:—"Will the military make their own arrangements for water for flushing purposes? There is plenty running to waste in nullah. I object to any further drain on the filtered town-water supply."

Mr. Chan A Fook:—"I agree with Dr. Hartigan that no filtered water should be used for this purpose."

Dr. Clark:—"I agree with Dr. Hartigan."

Dr. Bell:—"Application should be granted."

The Hon. R. D. Ormsby:—"Should be granted; 60 gallons a day only asked for; a mere drop in the ocean as compared with our supply and consumption."

On the motion of Dr. HARTIGAN, seconded by Dr. CLARK, the application was granted on condition that the military authorities made their own arrangements as to water.

At this point Dr. Bell vacated the chair, having an important engagement to attend to, and Mr. Clark was voted to the vacant seat.

ON MILK SUPPLY.

Mr. T. J. Wild, Acting Government Analyst, submitted the following analysis of a sample of milk collected and delivered on the 11th August by Chief Inspector Dandy from 6, Cochrane Street:—

"The composition of the milk is as follows: Solids not fat 8.505 parts, fat 4.920, water 86.575—100.000. Total solid matter in 100 parts by weight 13.425 parts, ash in 100 parts by weight .605, specific gravity at 15.5 per cent 1.030. Boric acid, salicylic acid, formalin and cane sugar absent. I am of opinion that this is a sample of genuine milk."

Mr. McKie minuted:—"When was an analysis last made on Dairy Farm Co. or Kennedy's milk?"

Dr. Clark minuted:—"In reply to Mr. McKie, samples from both of the above dairies were sent to the Government Analyst on the 2nd inst. Reports not yet received."

Mr. T. J. Wild, Acting Government Analyst, submitted the following analysis of a sample of milk collected and delivered by Chief Inspector Dandy from the Dairy Farm Company at their premises in Wyndham Street, on the 23rd August:—

"The composition of the milk is as follows—solids not fat 8.865 parts, fat 3.260 parts, water 87.875—100.000. Total solid matter in 100 parts by weight 12.125 parts; ash in 100 parts by weight .635; specific gravity at 15.5 per cent 1.030. Milk preservatives absent. I am of opinion from the above result that this is a sample of genuine milk."

Mr. McKie minuted:—"Water 87 per cent!! Very thirsty cows."

Dr. Hartigan minuted:—"There is something curious in the report of this analysis. The specific gravity is 1.030, and yet the water percentage is high, i.e., 87.875 against 86 normal. It may be accounted for by deficiency of fatty matter, 3.2, against 3.9 normal. It is a poor milk. The specific gravity in Hongkong milk is usually higher than normal. Another sample might be taken later on."

Mr. Fung Wa 'huen minuted:—"87 per cent water! Ridiculous!"

Dr. Clark minuted:—"Average country fed milk has 88 per cent. of water and town-fed milk has 86 per cent. so that this milk is of normal quality."

Mr. Baddeley minuted:—"If 86 is normal I hardly see how 87.8 can be called ridiculous."

THE PLAQUE IN AMOY.

The following letter, dated June 9th, from H. B. M. Consul at Amoy, to the Acting Colonial Secretary was submitted:—

"On the 5th inst. I had the honour to send you the following telegram *en clair*: 'Plague exists Amoy and vicinity, not yet epidemic. Please notify Commodore.' While I thought it my duty to advise you as above, I am glad to be able to report that as far as we can at present judge the plague in this district is far less prevalent and of a milder type than last year at a corresponding date."

The following minutes were appended:—

Dr. Hartigan:—"The letter is extremely vague; are no facts or statistics obtainable?"

Dr. Clark:—"The outbreak is soon over. What is the use of asking for further particulars? And as to statistics I know they are unobtainable, as Amoy is a Chinese city."

Dr. Bell:—"I think it would be as well to ask for a medical report if it is obtainable. The present statement is vague and the epidemic might be anything."

THE FORTNIGHTLY LIME-WASHING RETURN.

Chief Inspector Dandy's fortnightly lime-washing return showed that since the previous report 387 houses had been lime-washed in the Eastern district, none in the Central district and three in the Western district.

APPLICATIONS FOR EXEMPTION.

The following application from Messrs. Denison and Ram, architects, was submitted:—

"We beg to apply for exemption from notice to open up backyards as regards 45, Jervois Street, and 4, Burd Street. The two houses are used as one and together, are about 67 feet deep facing Jervois Street (a 40 ft. street), and backing into Burd Street (20 ft.) and having a central winding stair with well-hole and window in roof; are thoroughly lit and ventilated. New houses could be built under Sec. 8 sub-section a of 34 of 1899 exactly similar to these, and it seems therefore only reasonable that these should be allowed to stand."

Dr. Hartigan minuted:—"I should like some explanation of last paragraph in letter of application before deciding."

Mr. McKie minuted:—"Same view as Dr. Hartigan."

Dr. Clark minuted:—"Will be explained at meeting."

Mr. Baddeley minuted:—"Consider at next meeting."

The Hon. R. D. Ormsby minuted:—"I don't understand last paragraph of application."

The application was refused.

The following application from Messrs. Palmer and Turner, architects, was submitted:—"On behalf of the owners of No. 342, Des Voeux Road W. (late No. 176, Praya W.) we would ask for exemption from opening up a yard. The house is a corner one, and is well lighted by three windows on the side street (Eastern Street) and the kitchens have windows on each floor opening into the street." Mr. McKie, Dr. Hartigan, Mr. Chan A Fook, Mr. Fung Wa Chun, Mr. Osborne, and Mr. Baddeley minuted "exempt."

The Hon. R. D. Ormsby, minuted:—"Yes, if the M. O. H. has no objection to offer."

The application was granted.

THE HEALTH OF THE COLONY.

The death-rate for the week ended August 11th was 27.3 against 22.0 for the previous week and 21.4 for the corresponding week last year. The rate for the succeeding week was 28.1 against 22.0, for the corresponding week last year.

'This was all the business.

THE CRISIS IN CHINA.

LOCAL MOVEMENTS.

On the 24th ult. the transport *Fasilka* arrived from Calcutta with a squadron of the 3rd Bombay Cavalry (2 British and 4 Native officers, 121 N. O.'s and men, and 83 followers, with horses and mules), a Section of the 25th British Field Hospital, (1 British, 6 men, and 89 followers), and details. The British officers on board were Capt. Pervis and Buswell, Lieut. Denning, Willes, and McGreen.

The *Sirha* returned from Taku on the 24th ult., and the *City of Cambridge* sailed for Weihaiwei, the *Uganda* for Bombay. The *Duke of Portland* returned from Shanghai.

The transport *Palamcottah* reached Hongkong again from Calcutta on the 25th ult., bringing with her some Mounted Sappers with Lieut. Patterson, Sappers and Miners; a Balloon Section; Lieut. Johnson, 1st Bombay Lancers; a Sanitary Establishment; 2 N.C.O.'s, 318 troops and followers; and 3 nursing sisters.

The *Lavadi* brought a squadron of the 3rd Bombay Cavalry (Capt. Edwards and Cooper, Surgeon Cleveland, five native officers, 121 N.C.O.'s and men, 83 followers, with horses and mules).

The hospital ship *Maine* also arrived on the 25th ult.

The *Hinda* returned from Shanghai, and the *Uralna* from Taku and Weihaiwei.

The transport *Fasilka* left on the 25th ult. for Weihaiwei, and the *Sirha* and *Duke of Portland* left for Calcutta.

The *Voronej*, of the Russian Volunteer Fleet, left on the 25th ult. for Shanghai, escorted by cruiser *Admiral Nachimoff*.

On the 26th ult. the *Patiala* reached Hongkong from Calcutta, bringing the Headquarters and a wing of the 24th Punjab Infantry (7 British and 8 native officers, 377 N.C.O.'s and men, 72 followers, with horse and mules); and part of the 69th Field Hospital (1 British officer, 8 men, and 65 followers).

The *Palamcottah* and *Antillian* left on the 26th ult. for Taku, and the *Itinda* and *Urbina* for Calcutta.

The troopship *Salamis* arrived on the 26th ult. from Sydney, which she left on the 8th instant.

The Austrian cruiser *Kaiserin Elizabeth* arrived on the 26th ult. from Singapore.

The transport *Ujina* arrived on the 27th ult. from Calcutta, bringing C Battery R. H. A. (6 British officers, 179 N. C. O.'s and men, 135 followers, 6 guns, with horses and mules); part of the Ammunition Column (1 British officer, 24 N. C. O.'s and men, 29 followers, and horses); British Field Hospital No. 22, and details of the 2nd Infantry Brigade.

The transport *Zamania* arrived from Woosung on the 27th ult.

H. M. S. *Isis* departed on Monday night for Amoy.

The *Patiala* left for Taku.

The German gunboat *Tiger* arrived on the 27th ult. from Singapore. She is of 894 tons displacement and 1,300 i.h.p., carries eight 3.4 in. Q.F., six 1.4 in., and two maxims, and her speed is 13.3 knots.

The transport *Nairung* arrived on the 28th ult. from Calcutta, bringing a wing of the 20th Punjab Infantry (5 British and 7 native officers, 344 N.C.O.'s and men, and 83 followers, with horses and mules), a section of the Native Field Hospital with the British officer in charge, and details of the No. 5 Brigade Supply Column, and Transport of the 3rd Brigade. The British officers on board were Major Giles, Capt. Tigh, Lieuts. Grey and Finnis, Capt. Murray, I.M.S., Capt. Turner, I.M.S., Sub. Cond. McWalters, Staff Sergt.-Major Wright. H. M. S. *Isis* on Monday night sailed for Amoy.

At 7 o'clock on the 28th ult. the German squadron, including the flagship *Kurfürst Friedrich Wilhelm*, the battleships *Brandenburg*, *Weissenburg*, and *Wörth* and the despatch vessel *Hela*, arrived in the harbour on their way north.

The French gunboat *Comète* returned to Hongkong from Swatow.

The transport *Ujina* left on the 28th ult. for Taku with her troops, and the hospital ship *Carthage* left for Weihaiwei.

The transport *Zamania* departed for Calcutta.

The German cruiser *Hertha* went into dock on the 28th ult.

The P. and O. hired transport *Formosa* arrived on the 29th ult. from Bombay, bringing 21 British officers, the 14th Sikhs, the 34th Pioneers, a Hospital Corps and followers, amounting in all to 1,358 men. She proceeded on her way on the 30th.

The Austrian cruisers *Aspern* and *Kaiserin Elisabeth* sailed early on the 29th ult. for Shanghai, and were followed by the German cruiser *Tiger*.

The transport *Matiana* returned from Taku on the 29th ult.

The transport *Formosa* left for Taku on the 30th ult. with troops for the north.

The transport *Matiana* started on the 30th ult. on her return journey to Calcutta.

The German squadron now in the harbour left for Woosung on the 31st ult. except the *Wörth*, which proceeded to Kiaochow on the previous day.

TIENTSIN.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Tientsin, 10th August.

PEKING NEWS.

Our last authoritative news from Peking is dated 4th August, and is of a reassuring nature. Perhaps the most striking feature, after the statement that there were no more serious casualties, was that Railway Commissioner Su Ching Ching, late Minister at Berlin, and Yuan Chang, member of the Tsungli Yamen, had been summarily beheaded by Imperial decree for rendering assistance to foreigners. The Lega-

tions had, since the cessation of firing on the 16th ult., received no assistance from the Chinese Government. Desultory firing had begun again on the 3rd August, the day when the advanced guard moved out of Tientsin, and two Russians had been wounded. The Christian converts (Roman Catholic) at the Pei Sang had also been fired at, and attempts had been made to cajole away their foreign guards (French and Italian sailors) under a pledge that the Chinese would thereafter protect them; but this was regarded as a mere clumsy device to ensure their prompt massacre. The Ministers had been once more ordered to quit under threat of an attack in force; but of course there was no intention whatever of compliance. The defences had been indefinitely strengthened, and they were carefully husbanding food and ammunition in the confidence that they could hold out till the relief force came. I have also heard from a native and less trustworthy source that the foreigners had been able to secure a fair supply of food. This would be more credible were it not accompanied by the more dubious statement that they had also been able to procure some ammunition.

In Tientsin we all feel that the last three days have been crucial in Peking, and that if our neighbours have survived them, as we think they have, they will yet come out alive from their terrible ordeal.

THE ADVANCE AND THE HEAT.

Yesterday the advance guard (the Japanese) was reported to be thirty miles distant from Peking, and moreover the main body was to attempt a forced march of thirty miles during the 24 hours. This, under the intense heat, would be an almost impossible feat, and if it has been done will be historic. Several cases of heat and apoplexy are reported; the only wonder is that there have not been scores, instead of units.

A 4.7 ARRIVES.

The 4.7 in. Q. F. was sent on yesterday and reached Yangtsun (18 miles), but as we have had tropical rain all this morning in Tientsin, it is feared progress will be nil to-day. The communications are open, and lancers pass up and down; but we hear sniping is not infrequent beyond Yangtsun.

A MERITED DECORATION.

I do not know if the fact that M. le Comte du Chaylard has been decorated by the French Government has been made public: the significance of his promotion to the grand cross of the Legion of Honour is that his diagnosis and prognosis of the situation in North China during the last six months have been wonderfully accurate and have shown that the Consul General possesses both sound judgment and great prescience.

THE QUESTION OF THE TAKU FORTS.

I have some reason for believing that his and certain other memoranda sent in to the Berlin Foreign Office during the last year or two by an old and well-informed resident are the only formal notifications of the coming storm extant in the official bureaux of Europe and America. We must not, however, omit the clear and oft-repeated warnings of the able editor of the *Peking and Tientsin Times*, particularly as much cheap criticism was bestowed on them as the mere shouts of "wolf, wolf," or the eccentricities of a journalistic Cassandra. Many saw the tendencies of the Boxer propaganda, but few had the remotest idea that it would develop with cyclonic force and carry on with it the entire bureaucracy of the Province and the whole of the officialdom in the Capital, to say nothing of the troops, and the secret sympathy of most of the civil population. I am indulging in this vein because I fear the Ministers when once again in the saddle are going to make a dead set at the men who were responsible for the seizure of the Taku forts. The diplomatic idea is that it was this step and this alone which precipitated the action of the Chinese Government, and the alliance of the troops with the Boxers, and that its prompt issue was the jeopardising of every foreign life in North China. They think that if the Forts had not been seized, the situation would have been comparatively simple: that it would have been merely a Boxer problem, plus the collusion of a few ultra-reactionaries. This view of matters must be opposed *totis viribus*: the official mind, with the one exception referred to, has seen this Boxer question askew all the way through; therein it is not to be blamed

as nearly every man in North China was equally blind: but I may state that the lay mind is more alert to learn the truth from a new presentation of facts, and not to go on hugging delusions just because of a preconceived theory. I feel as certain as of my own existence that the taking of the Forts had no real effect on the issue at all except to precipitate matters by a day or two. The actions of our servants, of the Tientsin Officials, the written evidence left in the Viceroy's Yamen all prove that, forts or no forts, the Boxers were going to force the situation, and had already cowed the officials and soldiers into absolute fear. We were to be utterly destroyed in three days; and the attack actually began 20 hours before a shot was fired at Taku. Had the forts not been captured, there is every presumption that relief could not have reached Tientsin in time, and that the greatest crime in modern history would have been consummated. Every foreign throat in North China would have been cut, and tens of thousands of Chinese associated with us in trade, schools, religion &c., would have been massacred. It will be sheer nonsense to contend that the Taku business was the cause instead of the salvation of the situation.

GERMAN ARRIVALS.

Our latest arrivals have been a German naval brigade numbering 250; the large Marine brigade from Kiel is expected in two days. It is understood the transports are going to Kiaochow, there to disembark the men for garrison duty, and to embark the present garrison for the field.

CHINESE INACTIVITY.

Up to date the considerable body of Chinese away to the South and South-West of Tientsin has done nothing but exchange rifle shots with the Japanese scouts. Their inactivity is difficult to account for: about a week ago it almost seemed as if they were going to demonstrate down stream and threaten our communications.

NEW MOUNTINGS.

I hear the new field-mountings for the 4.7 Q. F. have been tried successfully: they are much simpler and lighter than the well known "Scott" mountings, and have been quickly made at the Taku works of the Lighter Company from the designs of one of the engineers of H.M.S. *Phoenix*.

CAVALRY HORSES.

The horses of the Sixth U. S. Cavalry have now arrived: some hundred odd of the animals are still "soft" from the voyage, and will require at least one week's rest before they go to the front. The troopers are in fine fettle, and are only chafing at the delay in getting up. In nothing is the contrast between East and West so marked as in this arm: the China, Japan, and Annam pony looks a pigmy beside the huge walers and Americans.

Later, 13th August, 8 p.m.

THE ADVANCE.

Allies had a slight encounter at Ho Si Wu (half way), four wounded. To-day Japanese are not less than 20 miles of Peking. English and American six miles behind; expect to be at Tung Chow (13 miles) to-morrow. Total force will be before the Walls on Monday at latest.

Sir Claude's last message asks for stores; these are being forwarded by Mr. Tallien: it is inferred that he will *pro tem.* remain in Peking.

THE AUSTRALIAN DETACHMENT.

The first batch of Australians for service in China arrived in the *Salamis* on Sunday-morning. She brought 200 Victorian blue-jackets, in charge of Lieutenant Ticknell and 250 from New South Wales. Captain Hickson came out in charge of the latter, but he is about to return home and his place will be taken by Lieutenant Gillespie, who will rank as Captain. The Victorians have two 14-pounder quick-firing guns with them, and those from New South Wales two nine-pounders. The men were very conspicuous about the City, the seamen in ordinary naval costume, and the marines dressed somewhat after the style of the Colonials in South Africa. The *Salamis* left for Weihaiwei on Friday.

ON THE WAY.

The P. & O. s.s. *Clyde*, which left Singapore on Monday and is due here to-day, September 1st, has on board twelve officers and 260 men of the Royal Artillery and Royal Army Medical Corps for service in China. The P. & O. s.s. *Bombay*,

which sailed from the Royal Albert Docks on the 11th inst., conveys the 4th Balloon Section Royal Engineers, about three officers and seventy-five men, with the necessary equipment.

The Norddeutscher Lloyd's steamers *Dresden* and *Halle*, chartered by the Imperial German Government, left Singapore on Monday morning and may be expected here to-day.

LI HUNG-CHANG.

It is reported from Shanghai that as long as the 20th ult. H.E. Li Hung-chang gave orders to the China Merchants' Co. for the steamer *Anping* to be ready at any time to take H.E. and suite up North. The exact date of leaving was, however, unsettled, and as we have not heard of his departure it may be assumed that he still remains in Shanghai.

AMOY AFFAIRS.

An Amoy correspondent writes to us on the 25th inst., stating that on that day Kulungsu Island was still being patrolled by armed Japanese, and that the previous night they were challenging foreigners. The two Japanese men-of-war, the only warships in port, were under steam. The Chinese were perfectly quiet, and the community is unable to understand the present proceedings. The landing of an armed force, continues our correspondent, can only excite the thickly populated city, and will probably be the cause of a riot and destruction of property.

Another correspondent writes to the same effect and asks why a British, German, or American man-of-war cannot be sent to Amoy. By this time we hope our correspondent is gratified by the arrival of H.M.S. *Isis*.

CONGRATULATIONS TO M. PICHON.

The French residents in Shanghai have sent, through their Consul-General, the following telegram to M. Pichon at Peking:—

"The French Colony at Shanghai have followed with painful anxiety the course of the drama just enacted at Peking. They feel very keenly the losses which have been suffered by the French colony at Peking. On the occasion of your rescue they wish to pay a public tribute to the dignity, patience, and heroism shown by you and your companions and defenders, and to congratulate your Excellency personally on the well merited distinction which you have just received from the Government of the Republic. May this honour lessen the bitterness of the memory of the long days of trial which Madame Pichon and you have so nobly endured!"

The distinction alluded to is the promotion of M. Pichon to the rank of Commander of the Légion d'Honneur. At the same time Consuls du Chaylard (Tientsin), de Bezaure (Shanghai), and François (Yunnan-fu) were made officers of the Légion d'Honneur.

THE AMERICANS AT TAKU

ADMIRAL KEMPF EXPLAINS.

The report from Rear-Admiral Kempf, explaining why he did not take part in the attack on the Taku Forts, has been made public by the U. S. Navy Department. Secretary Long has warmly commended Rear-Admiral Kempf's action. The report says:—

Flagship *Newark* (Taku, China), 17th July, 1900.—Sir, I would state what follows in regard to the happenings previous to the resolve yesterday by other senior foreign naval officers here to get possession of the Taku forts.

2.—On Thursday, 14th June, Rear-Admiral Bruce called and asked what I thought of the matter, and I informed him that I was not authorised to initiate any act of war with a country with which my country was at peace; that my limit was to protect American interests both by regulations and under recent instructions from both the Department and from the Commander-in-Chief of the United States Naval Forces on the Atlantic station.

3.—On the 15th, at a consultation of the other foreign naval officers, it was agreed that the railroad station at Tangku should be taken (the railway is under Chinese Government control), and in case any Chinese Government force acted against the force of any nation all should be involved and act unitedly. Under my instructions I could not join in taking possession of Chinese Government property, and did not care to become a party to such a agreement without definite authority.

4.—Yesterday, 16th June, the same foreign naval officers signed a compact that it was necessary to take temporary possession of the Taku forts, and notice was served on the Viceroy at Tientsin and on the Commandant of the forts. The Consuls at Tientsin were informed of what was contemplated. I did not join in the attack on the forts. Captain Wise of the *Monocacy* had orders to protect American interests, based upon the Department's orders, but in case of attack by the Chinese Government force he was to consider it as a declaration of war and act accordingly.—Very respectfully,

LOUIS KEMPF,
Rear-Admiral, U.S.A.

THE FALL OF PEKING.

Details are still wanting of affairs at Peking and in its neighbourhood. The following items in the *N.-C. Daily News* come from Chinese sources:—

THE REIGN OF TERROR

at Peking, according to the latest news, prior to the flight of the Empress Dowager, must have been terrible. The policy of Prince Tuan and the Empress Dowager appears to have been to make away with every one suspected of friendship with foreigners, and all who have spoken in disparaging terms of their beloved Boxers. Even those who were at first carried away by the enthusiasm of the moment, but who subsequently saw through them and avoided them, have not escaped the general massacre, and men like the bigoted reactionist Ting Chieh (Manchu), Provincial Treasurer of Chihli, have also been executed at the demand of the Boxer chiefs "for speaking disparagingly of the patriots."

THE EMPEROR STILL REPORTED IN PEKING.

The hopes of a numerous body of the Reform Party at Shanghai with reference to the safety of the Emperor, were considerably raised by the news received from a member of the Party, a Secretary of the Governor Yuan Shikai at Chinan, to the effect that two of the latest Imperial decrees (11th and 12th inst.) received by Governor Yuan from Peking were written in what is supposed to be the Emperor's own handwriting. In other words, the chirography is the same as that of the decrees which were issued during the Emperor's era of reform in 1898, and is now seen for the first time after an absence of just two years. This has given rise to the hope that the Emperor has managed to parate himself from the Empress Dowager, in which case it may be fairly assumed that his Majesty is now under the protection of the Allies.

THE MYSTERIOUS REPORT

of the presence, on the 17th instant, at Paoting of Chao Shu-chiao, President of the Board of Punishments, Grand Councillor, and Tsungli Yamén Minister, a notorious Reactionist and follower of Prince Tuan and Kang Yi, is explained by an official despatch received from the North. It is stated that, owing to the delay of Li Hung-chang in going up North to take over his seals of the Chihli Viceroyship, and the fear that he may not get up there after all, the Empress Dowager was compelled to appoint some one to go to Paoting to be ready to take over the seals from the Provincial Judge Ting Yung, who is now both acting Treasurer and Viceroy.

LATER ITEMS.

A Chefoo despatch to the *N.-C. Daily News* states that the allied forces employed dynamite to breach the walls of the Forbidden City, and entered, with the assistance of four thousand armed Christians living inside. The allies' flag was run up over the Imperial Palace. Street fighting continued for some time, but the casualties are unknown.

It is stated in Shanghai mandarin circles that the Empress Dowager prior to her flight issued an edict commanding the following Boxer Chiefs to remain in the capital, namely, Prince Tuan, Prince Chuan, the Grand Secretary Hsü Tung, the Assistant Grand Secretary Kang Yi, and Chung Li, President of the Board of Punishments and Commandant of the Peking Gendarmerie, "to defend the Imperial city and administer the Government." Three of the four above-named are Manchus, the third named, Hsü Tung, being a Chinese Bannerman or Hanchun, a descendant of the Chinese traitors who admitted the Manchus into

the Great Wall and aided them to conquer China. Before leaving Peking the Empress had more than twenty of her eunuchs beaten to death.

A telegram from Chefoo to the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* reports:—As soon as the allies reached Peking they immediately searched for Prince Tuan, but did not find him. They then pursued him with cavalry. At the same time the Allies issued the following proclamation: "We fight only against the Boxers and their leaders and for the protection of our Ministers, and do not seek a conflict with the Chinese people."

Native official reports received in Shanghai last week state that General Tung Fuhsiang and his Kansu men left Peking twenty-four hours before the flight of the Empress Dowager, his corps being ordered to act as her advanced guard to Shensi. This appears to have been due to an apprehension that the North-western Mahomedans might be tempted to attack the Empress Dowager and Court en route, and make away with the Tsing or Manchu dynasty for good and for all. Another report stated that upon the capture of Peking by the allies the members of all the Legations all removed into the Palaces inside the Forbidden City for greater safety.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC REFUGEES FROM YUNNAN.

Four French priests and a number of followers arrived yesterday, says the Bhamo correspondent of the *Rangoon Gazette*, writing under date the 10th inst. They were escorted from Talifu to Nampaung by 20 armed soldiers. They were 26 days on the road and suffered much from the heat, wind and rain, but strange to say they are all looking remarkably well except their elder or bishop, an elderly gentleman, who is very much reduced. It was through the kindness of the military officers at Tali that they obtained their pass and escort of troops. They report the country unsettled and trade at a standstill. They met with no opposition or insults until they came near the frontier, where they would have had some trouble had it not been for Mr. Hobson. They state that the China Inland missionaries will doubtless attempt to reach Shanghai, while their fellow-priests in Southern Yunnan will move south. A leading Chinese merchant when asked what he thought of the state of affairs in China said the "Old Empress is a bad woman." When asked why the white people in Burma did not turn upon the Chinese, kill and take their property, he replied, "You have a God, you have law."

NEUOHWANG.

RUSSIAN PROGRESS.

The correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* wrote on the 13th ult.—Haicheng was captured yesterday morning by the Russians after two hours' bombardment, and five modern fieldpieces fell into their hands. Their next point of attack should be naturally Anshanshan; but they are halting at Haicheng and sending a strong force down here, under the impression that we are in danger from some Chinese who retired westward after the fight at Tashihchiao, and from other troops reported to contemplate meeting at Tienchuangtai and attacking us in three days. As to the former, we know nothing; the latter are said to have left Tienchuangtai to-day for Newchwang proper, which, being at some distance from the Chinese Eastern Railway line, is less likely to be attacked by the Russians. Meantime great alarm prevails among the Chinese, and several hundreds, whose forefathers migrated here from Shantung, are returning to the homes of their ancestors.

Jack Young, the Australian jockey and trainer, died on the 11th ult. at the hospital of San Juan de Dios. The deceased, who for many years has attended the principal race meets in the East and Far East, was considered the best cross country rider in India. He took a trip to Japan about nine months ago, and came down to Hongkong in the early part of the year. Not being in good health he sought out the Philippines as a recruiting ground, but he gradually declined, after a long and painful illness. He leaves a wife in Calcutta to lament his loss.

THE SERVANT QUESTION IN HONGKONG.

(Contributed).

It is a pleasing sign of the times to note that native servants—boys, house-boobies, private bearers—as well as their public brethren of the street-chair and ricksha, are not having matters wholly their own way. Scarcely a week passes but one or other of these gentry is hauled before the Magistrate's Bench, charged with disobedience, disorderliness, or some such kindred failing, and either fined or imprisoned. It is not many months since the scale of fares for hired chairs and rickshas was revised, owing to the general rise in the cost of foodstuffs and in rent. It is notorious that the wages of private servants have risen inordinately during the past three years. There have been unmistakable restlessness and discontent, not altogether unwarranted, among the various servant classes, both licensed and unlicensed, for some considerable time. The unsettled state of the interior, together with a long succession of indifferent rice harvests, has sent up the price of fuel and rice. The unexpected influx of great numbers of Philipinos since the Americans went to Luzon to stay, as Compradore price lists will show, has also been a contributing factor in the same direction; these immigrants, many of whom have settled down permanently in our midst, more than filled the empty houses, and thus sent rents bounding up. The China Crisis on the top of all this has but made confusion worse confounded. The London cabby is politeness personified, when compared with the men who ply here in our streets; and the highly coloured eloquence of a Farringdon fish-fag is as mute silence when put alongside the abusive and redolent language shrieked out by them at the luckless occupant of chair or ricksha who, at the end of his journey, has the effrontery to tender legal fare. The men working public vehicles are licensed, and at the expenditure of a little trouble can easily be brought to book. All that is required is to take the number of the vehicle and give it to the Police, who will themselves take out a summons. The complainant will be informed when to appear, and, on establishing his charge, will have the keen satisfaction of seeing the defendants punished. It is, however, much more difficult to deal with the men employed about our premises. Unfortunately, they are now unlicensed; and, in consequence, play fast and loose with the many immediate advantages this fact gives them. Native domestics were never so troublesome and unsatisfactory as at the present moment. The servant question is as vexed and acute in Hongkong as it is in London. The convenience of these menials has to be considered to such an extent nowadays that it is becoming a serious question in many households of doing with a smaller number of them. They are insolent and supercilious. If the slightest objection is made to their mode of work, they at once threaten to leave at the end of the month, and in some cases will go away at a moment's notice; or, after some disagreeable incident, they will allege a dead grandmother, demand, and in many cases obtain, wages up to date, on condition of supplying a substitute, who is oftener than not bogus, and who, by a judicious smashing of valuable crockery, or by one of the thousand and one methods of torture that such a man has ever ready to hand, will manage to get turned away at the end of the first day. House-servants are banded together in hongs or guilds, which no doubt support them in this disreputable work. Servants of all grades are much more highly paid in Hongkong than in any of the coast and river ports, and are infinitely less obliging. The native servant was always reputed as a nimble-fingered Autolychus; but, of late, he has developed into a mean low type of thief, so that nothing is too small for him to purloin. Domestic servants in the Far East have many more inducements to steal than the same class has at home; for, in addition to wages, they are given lodging, but no board. This is an important difference to bear in mind, because it accounts for much of the constant wearing friction that occurs between employer and servant. We give a concrete example. Years ago, the food eaten in the servants' quarters and that prepared for the table were quite different; and a

joint given to the cook was served up at its proper weight, due deductions being made for legitimate waste in getting it ready for the oven, as well as for what is ordinarily lost during the actual process of cooking. Then one's servants fed wholly on rice, with *sung* or accompaniments—for rice is rigorously regarded as the staple food of every meal—in the shape of seasonable vegetables, fish, or pork, with the occasional luxury of poultry at festival times. To-day all this is vastly altered. Chinese commonly eat bread, while beef and mutton not infrequently form part of their diet. The result is that there is much ceaseless petty pilfering going on, in kitchen and pantry, that of old did not exist. *Autres temps, autres mœurs*. And then, in the eyes of these people, such theft is but a mere spoiling of the Egyptians. So cunningly are these little robberies carried out that it is next to impossible to detect them. If the culprit be caught, *flagrante delicto*, it is, for many reasons, nearly always advisable to overlook his act; for, if the man be brought into Court, convicted and summarily sentenced, the complainant is sure to be boycotted; or it may happen that his other servants will leave him in a body—this has been done—or threaten to do so. It does, however, occasionally come to pass that some incensed householder, wittingly risking all this contingent unpleasantness, carries his just complaint to a Magistrate, and gets the offender smartly punished. Very obviously the remedy for this discreditable state of affairs is some practical scheme of effective registration. The local authorities formerly had a system of registration for private servants; but no one, in those good days, cared to go to the little trouble it entailed. Servants were then unspoilt; there were but few ladies in the Colony, and so the scheme was allowed to die of sheer neglect. A private Registry for servants was started about six years ago, but it too fell through, owing to lack of support. It is a thousand pities that the Government system of registration was allowed to die out. He who would get it revived would receive, not undeservedly, the thanks of the heads of every European household on the island.

HONGKONG HOME GUARD.

A RESERVE COMPANY OF THE VOLUNTEERS.

The postponed meeting in connection with the Hongkong Home Guard was held in the City Hall on Monday night, 27th ult. There was a fair attendance. Mr. Gershom Stewart presided, and he was supported by Major-General Gascoigne, C.M.G., and Mr. A. Turner (hon. sec.). Colonel The O'Gorman and Captain the Hon. H. W. Trefusis were also present.

The CHAIRMAN said the meeting had been called to discuss the rules which the committee had drawn up, but after the committee had drawn up the rules they received a letter from His Excellency, Major General Gascoigne, saying that he had some suggestions which he would like to lay before them, and he thought they would be very glad to hear those suggestions before discussing the rules.

H. E. the MAJOR-GENERAL said it was very kind of them to let him come to their meeting, and he would keep them as short a time as possible, but he thought it would be better, after talking it over with Mr. Gershom Stewart and one or two others, if he made himself clear to them, and then they would be free to follow his suggestion or not, exactly as they pleased. He should like them to look upon him there not in the least as the General Officer Commanding, beyond the little experience they might be kind enough to credit him with. He laid his proposal before them, and he would like them to judge it on its merits. When the original scheme as to the formation of a Home Guard came before him he confessed it smiled upon him very much, but he felt that he could not return an answer until he had consulted the Hongkong Volunteers. He took that public opportunity of saying that he—and he thought that all of them there and in Hongkong—owed a great debt of gratitude to the Volunteers—(hear, hear)—and, therefore, he felt that unless it was quite clear in his own mind that the scheme proposed was not looked upon unfavourably by the Volunteers he should not have anything to say to it. When he first came to Hongkong

and was taken round by the Staff, he realised that the Volunteers here occupied a very different position from elsewhere—that they were not only a factor in the defence of Hongkong but that they had a very distinct part in that defence. As the result of the patriotic feeling aroused by the troubles in the hinterland last year, and one thing and another, the Hongkong Volunteers were more than double in numbers what they were when he first came, and they had certainly more than doubled their efficiency. (Hear, hear). They now, in every sense of the word, might be said to form a practical part of the defence of the colony. (Hear, hear). Therefore he considered it would not do for him to go back upon them. He felt he could not do anything with the scheme proposed unless it was viewed favourably by the Volunteers. Accordingly when the scheme was forwarded to him, he laid it before Sir John Carrington, who at once most liberally agreed that it should go forward. He then looked into it with a view of helping them in every possible way he could. One of the impressions he received when the scheme was first put before him was that a body of gentlemen, mostly sportsmen, were anxious to take part in the defence of the colony if necessity arose, but that they did not want to tie themselves down to a number of drills and inspections—in fact, to the drudgery of drill and inspection which would be entailed by joining the Hongkong Volunteers. He understood also that many of them, being practical men and men of their word, said to themselves, "If I belong to the Volunteers and I find it inconvenient to attend so many drills and so many inspections, I shall perhaps pull down the corps which has been kind enough to invite me to belong to it, and so I do not like to undertake to do a thing which I cannot carry through." He also understood that what they proposed to do was to attain a certain amount of proficiency in the use of the rifle, and to give their assistance, if necessity arose, as scouts and rifle shots. Then he did hear—though he did not believe it—that there was an idea in the minds of some of them that by obtaining a certain proficiency with the rifle, the man who had obtained that proficiency might, if trouble arose, remain in his own house to guard his wife and children, and so forth. He did not believe that such an idea did exist, but if it did he could have nothing whatever to do with it. Union was strength, and the only terms on which he could have anything to do with the scheme was that they should all come into a certain line, whatever that line might be. Then he understood that in return for this he should grant them the loan of service rifles, let them have ammunition at cost price, and give them the assistance of a drill sergeant—he supposed there would be a little payment on their part—and the use of ranges. Having consulted with the Volunteers, he wrote back saying that the Volunteers had no objection, and that he would further their wishes to the best of his ability, and whatever the result of that meeting he said the same then. He did not go back from anything he had promised. Then the matter was referred to His Excellency the Governor, who viewed it very favourably; but when it was referred to the Law Officers of the Crown it was pointed out that an armed body of men who were under no responsibility at all was an unknown thing hitherto. He thought that if they thought it over themselves they would see that it was an unusual precedent. While considering this point an idea occurred to him from his experience in London years ago, when he commanded the Scots Guards. The Commanding officer of every regiment of guards had so many Volunteer Regiments and so many Militia regiments under him, and when he commanded the Scots Guards he had eight regiments of Volunteers and two of Militia under him. His principal duty during the five years he commanded was really more with the Volunteers than with the Scots Guards. One of those Volunteer regiments was the Queen's Westminsters, which had a reserve company in connection with it. It was, if not the strongest, the second strongest Volunteer Corps in England, having ten strong companies. He was asked to inspect it, and he found the whole regiment—the active regiment drawn up in uniform on parade and then on the flank of each company, with a little space between

were a number of veterans. Certainly there was this difference between the association here and the Queen's Westminsters—that all these men on the flanks were seasoned veterans of the regiment. He thought, would it be possible to get a reserve company, or they could call it a veteran company, of the Hongkong Volunteers? That was his scheme. Again, before he could bring it before them he had to ask, what would the Volunteers say to this? So he got Sir John Carrington to meet him by appointment, and he told him briefly what he had told them that day. Sir John smiled upon the scheme at once, but said he must consult his officers. He accordingly consulted his officers, and they unanimously agreed that it would be a great honour to have them join in with them in that way. If this proposal smiled upon them—he did not say it would—this was what he would expect. He should expect no drill. He recognised that they had a desire to avoid barrack square drill and so forth. He should expect a certain proficiency—whatever was settled by the committee—in the use of the rifle. He should expect that they would provide themselves with a uniform—not the whole kit, but a portion of the uniform worn by the Hongkong Volunteers. He should expect that they would be an integral part of the Volunteers. As regarded the inspection he should say this: he could notify that he intended to inspect the Hongkong Volunteers on a certain date. If the gentlemen present, supposing they fell in with his scheme, honoured him by coming, all he could say was that he should esteem it a very great honour and a very great pleasure. He should go down their ranks, as he went down the Queen's Westminsters. They would not be expected to drill or march past or do anything of that kind. If, on the other hand, it was found to be impossible on account of business for them to come to the inspection, there would be no compulsion about it. His Excellency pointed out that by adopting his scheme the association would be given a status and yet they would incur no further obligations than they were apparently willing to incur from their original scheme.

The CHAIRMAN said that after listening—as he was sure they had all done with the greatest interest—to the speech the General had been kind enough to make to them, it seemed to him that the best thing they could do was to accept the proposal, as they would be securing everything they hoped to secure and they would be also securing a status.

A short discussion then ensued with the view to elucidating certain points raised.

The Hon. R. D. ORMSBY said that all His Excellency the General had said met with his strongest support. When he put his name down on the list he considered he was letting himself in for at least 20 drills a year. He thought that when men were entrusted with rifles and wore uniforms it was very little indeed to call upon them to do as much as the General had suggested they should do—that was to be enrolled as Volunteers and to appear at inspections. The General had said nothing about drill, though he for one would be glad to attend a certain number of drills, because he did not see how they could appear at inspections without. They would present a very awkward appearance if they could not stand in line.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed—"That the members who have joined the Home Guard accept General Gascoigne's proposal that we enrol ourselves as a reserve company of the Volunteers."

Mr. MOXON seconded and the proposition was carried with five or six dissentients.

The CHAIRMAN said that of course those gentlemen who did not agree with the proposal would have the opportunity of withdrawing their names. In conclusion he said he thought they owed General Gascoigne a very hearty vote of thanks for coming down there on such a hot day and giving them such an interesting speech. (Applause)

This was all the business.

There is considerable uneasiness, says a home paper, among the British public on account of the excessive purchases of smokeless steam coal by France and Russia.

THE WRECK OF THE "FUTAMI MARU."

CAPT. CLARKE'S ACCOUNT.

Capt. W. E. Clarke, who is very well known in Hongkong, has favoured us with the following full account of the wreck of the *Futami Maru*, on which he and his wife were passengers:—

The Japanese Mail line steamer *Futami Maru*, due to arrive at Manila on the 18th and here on the 22nd, was wrecked at midnight of the 17th off Cape Calavite, western part of Mindoro Island, one of the Philippine group.

All the passengers, mails and specie, part of Officers and Crew were rescued by the Eastern Australian Co.'s S.S. *Australian*, and brought on to Hongkong, arriving on the 30th ult.

On the night of the 17th the weather was squally from S.W., much rain and vivid lighting, and there must have been a very heavy sea from S.W. to have brought our good ship so close to this danger, as Capt. Thom is a very prudent and careful navigator who would not knowingly take any chances. Just before midnight the ship struck bottom. I knew the sound too well, and at once left the cabin and gave the alarm to the passengers in adjoining berths and told my wife to dress herself as soon as possible and get on deck. I then jumped on deck, and saw through the mist the land on our starboard bow. The roar of the seas breaking away on the port bow and the rolling surf-seas were terrifying in the extreme. The ship was there rising to the heavy sea and falling, bumping with a shock of earthquake force, and then listing to port. The heavy seas would strike the bow and port side with great force, falling on board with fearful violence.

Thinking the heavy sea might lift her over the reef and perhaps into deeper water I went on the bridge and suggested to the Captain to let go both anchors in order to bring her head on to the sea, as she would certainly drift closer in shore. One was let go and in about two hours she sailed round about four points, which brought the sea more ahead and she lay more easily.

During this time the best kind of discipline was observed. The saloon passengers were on deck with life belts on. All the 2nd class and steerage passengers were brought under the shelter of the saloon deck houses and provided with life belts. The stewards and servants obtained life belts also, but after the word came from the captain that there was no immediate danger these were more or less discarded excepting by the Chinese passengers. The wind and sea seemed to increase with the rising tide and she began to work by heavily. At about 2 a.m. the starboard boats were swung out and lowered to the rail ready for use when required. I do not think it would have been possible to have lowered the port side boats. These were afterwards washed away during the next night. The face of the carpenter as he passed along, sounding the bells began to look white and long, so I soon ascertained that she was making water rapidly, which accounted for the heavy list outwards. The port cabins were flooded, as some of the class ports were broken by the heavy seas.

Provisions and water were brought up for the boats. My only dread was that we might have to leave before daylight, for the night and darkness seemed to have no end, and my eyes could not pierce the blackness to see where we could safely go with the boats for shelter or a landing place. To have had to jump for it I fear there would have been an awful loss of life, as the surf backwash was very strong. At this time when I feared the worst a servant brought some biscuits round, and in trying to eat one, I made my first success in moulding a brick. It would not go down. The heat too has truly awful even on deck and to venture down below was worse than going into an oven.

The ladies and, in fact, all the passengers, were cool and collected from the time the ship struck, and when the moon began to show its pale light the sea and darkness lost much of their terror. By daylight the ship was fast filling in all compartments except engine and boiler space. A full head of steam had been raised on all the boilers with a view of backing her off, but it was useless work.

At daylight I soon saw the position we were in, and that the ship must become a total wreck. So I did not hesitate to suggest that preparations be made to lower boats, land stores with tents, etc., ready for disembarkation.

One boat was sent away with first officer in charge with a message for assistance. During the course of the morning the other boats were lowered and filled with stores, blankets, awnings, etc., and hauled ashore by means of a hauling line previously arranged. There all the Asiatic passengers were landed; after them the saloon passengers, the gentlemen kindly taking all care of the ladies, who were placed in charge of Mr. Cooper. Some cabin luggage brought for immediate wants were landed, together with the passengers and all sent up round a point on the beach to a camping ground located by the second officer. All this work was done in a perfectly orderly manner supervised by Capt. Thom and officers.

The rest of the day was spent in recovering stores, baggage, and anything that would be of use in the camp.

During this time the wind was at gale force with blinding rain, during the squalls, while disembarking, the sea would break right over the vessel and the drenching spray came with great force over the people in the boats.

The officers, crew and servants particularly worked very hard during all this time, drenched to the skin, carrying stuff ashore and along the beach to the camp. Ten boxes of gold were sent to the camp but six more and all the mails, with what baggage, etc., landed was retained at a camp on beach opposite the ship under charge of the chief and junior officers, and Chief Engineer Moore. During the afternoon some natives came to our camp, and by aid of my knowledge of Portuguese I was able to inform them what we were and to ask for any kindly aid, which was truly offered. Soon after this the first mate returned from Paluan, where the President resides, and brought with him one of the head men of the village, with whom Mr. Smith, one of the passengers, was able to converse freely in Latin, so my poor Spanish was thrown overboard. Camp life that night was most uncomfortable on account of the strong squalls and heavy rains, but we had to be thankful the ladies were well housed from the elements. Certainly had these arrangements not been taken in hand as early as they were we should all have fared very badly, for the Captain had to desert the ship that night, Saturday. An armed guard was kept over each of the camps and perfect order prevailed. Most of the crew and Chinese passengers were wet through the whole time, but they soon set to work and rigged up tents of blankets and leaves the next day, Sunday, and in time I counted over 20 different camps. Mind you, we had about 165 people here and perhaps 10 more at the other camp on the beach. Fortunately near at hand was a fine stream of good water which proved a great blessing. By means of high camp fires and ready hands food was cooked and clothes dried. This day was employed by part of the crew and some natives bringing up the stores and baggage landed the day previous.

The ship was discovered to be breaking about the midship section. Could not board her as it was so rough, the seas making a clean breach right over fore and aft.

In the afternoon the Captain got the native headman to take a message to the President of Paluan with a view to sending it on for assistance. Mr. Smith and Mr. Sprague volunteered to accompany him and see it put through.

Weather still squally with heavy rains during the night. Monday—Weather moderating slightly, and late in afternoon the chief officer boarded the vessel and obtained some rice flour and other stores. Tuesday—Weather moderating and barometer rising.

Cleaned out the camp and laid sea sand for flooring, which at least made it sweet and clean. This being very swampy ground, with mud ankle deep, and such moist atmosphere made it very unpleasant. The natives brought us fowls and a calf. More stores were obtained and a lot of articles were salvaged from the vessel. During afternoon Mr. Smith and Mr. Sprague returned together with the brother of the President of Paluan on pony back. The headman assured us all that we should be well protected, and as soon as the weather moderated we should have a plentiful supply of food, and that

YUNG LU AND TUNG FUHSIANG.

TWO LETTERS DISCOVERED.

The Canton *Ling Hoi Po* of the 22nd inst. reproduces from the *Ches Sun Po*, of Shanghai, the following letter from Yung Lu, Viceroy of Chihli, to General Tung Fuhsiang, with the latter's reply. The letters are believed to be authentic and were discovered among some confidential documents in the yamen by an official who passed them on until ultimately they reached the papers.

From Yung Lu to Tung Fuhsiang—Your brother Shing Wu has received your letter and acknowledges its contents. He knows that the foreigners of different countries have been insulting China and ill-treating her people in a manner that has aroused our rightful indignation, and rendered it a matter of great inconvenience to us in the transaction of our internal affairs. All those that know something of foreign affairs are as afraid of foreigners as of tigers. Yet they are only relying upon the strength of their ships of war and guns to terrify us. Their territory is small and their people are few in number. They have robbed us of our lands and goods. Apart from their strong ships and fearful guns they are worthless and have nothing else to boast of or for us to fear. Their guns and ammunition we have, and as our soldiers are well trained and smart, we should have no fear of them. The year before last, when Italy wanted our San Mun Wan Bay, I strongly opposed her, and she could not do anything. Now we have with us Prince Tuan as our chief supporter, the new governor, and some millions of *I Ho Chuan* who intensely hate all foreigners as much as they hate the Christians. With their magical skill we have a set of patriotic people whom Heaven has sent us. The foreigners that live here are few, and it will be easy to sweep them out. I swear that I will kill the whole generation of them, so as to stop their ill-treatment of us. I have the talent of a general and the dignity of nobility, and I command fine soldiers; so the foreign barbarians are afraid of me. We have long ago had the intention of killing them all, and now with the help of the Boxers, whom we shall supply with arms and ammunition, we shall be quite able to oppose them, and make for ourselves an everlasting name all over the world. I hope you will fall in with my plan.

[Sd.] YUNG LU.

Tung Fuhsiang answered as follows:—I have received your Excellency's instructions yesterday, and thank your Excellency for it. Your Excellency says that the barbarians have been insulting us exceedingly, and that you have sworn to kill them so as to stop their ill-treatment of us. I quite agree. With the help of the *I Ho Chuan* we shall be quite able to fight them. Since your Excellency has shown such loyal indignation, and spared no trouble to carry out your object, I too with my poor talent have the same intention. How dare I disobey your Excellency's order? Fortunately we have the *I Ho Chuan*, who are gifted with mystical arts and supernatural skill, and who are as loyal and as patriotic as they are brave. They fear no death, and are ready to risk their lives for the love of their country, to kill and sweep out all the foreign barbarians, so as to win a name for the future. This, I am confident, your Excellency is quite able to accomplish. Your Excellency is in an exalted position, and of your Excellency's skill, clear judgement, and extraordinary merit I have not the least doubt. Having received such orders from your Excellency it is my duty to make all military preparations, and to await an opportunity for rising. I shall do my best to render all possible help and am willing to sacrifice even my life to repay your favour. I hope your Excellency will honour me with further instructions and I shall report to your Excellency the state of our army.

[Sd.] FUHSIANG.

The "Straits Chinese British Association," recently formed at Singapore for the improvement of the social status of Straits-born Chinese, has among its list of honorary members on the Committee the name of Dr. Ho Kai of Hongkong. At the first meeting of the association it was announced that a membership of over a thousand had already been obtained.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 25th August.

TERRORISING NEWSPAPER.

On account of the defeat of the Chinese troops at the hands of the Allied Forces at Peking, as described in the English journals, which the native paper *Pok Man Po* translated and published, a number of ruffians and vagabonds went the other day into the newspaper office, and threatened to break the head of the editor and smash up the place if he keeps on publishing Chinese reverses.

A CANTON FABLE.

One Chinese newspaper, the *Chung Sai Po* of Canton, has published a barefaced story, saying that when the Indian troops arrived at Hongkong, on being told that there were a large number of Boxers at Peking whom they were expected to fight, they got so frightened that some 70 to 80 of them jumped into the water and were drowned!

A REPENTANT BRIGAND.

Li Hung-chang, by his secretary Lao Hok Shun, at Shanghai, wired an order to some high officials here to recall the Brigand Chiefs Fuchan Hoi and Ao Sun, together with their soldiers, and offered to employ them as his body guard, I hear they have refused, and that Ao Sun, tired of his predatory life, has turned priest.

A DISORDERLY FESTIVAL.

The 18th ult. was the anniversary day of the King of Hell in the temple in the old city, where people from the different parts of the town and villages repaired to worship to gain indulgence and pardon for their sins. With a multitude of mixed characters, male and female, huddled together indiscriminately, sleeping, eating, smoking and drinking for a night or two, the scene of course goes beyond the limits of decorum. The custom is commonly known among the Chinese as "taking the vapour of the earth." Although the authorities issue notifications every year to prohibit it, still they cannot stop it. Among the many ridiculous incidents which occurred I may just mention two or three. Between 4 and 5 p.m. on the day of the festivity a middle-aged man was seen barefooted in a penitential mood walking, stopping, every three paces, kneeling down, kowtowing, getting up, and proceeding all the way through a long street, as long as say from Queen's Road Central to the Sailor's Home, to the temple. Another instance was that of a young wife, who was going to the temple with her mother-in-law. Before she arrived at her destination, among the bustle of the crowd she missed her. She went about to look for her, treading through the labyrinth of the streets and enquiring at every shop. At last she became alarmed and went astray as far as the Nam Hoi yamen, where the runners, who are always on the alert looking out for prey, pounced upon her under the supposition that she had been kidnapped and locked her up. When her case was brought up, the Magistrate inquired into the circumstances, and being satisfied that she was a respectable woman, despatched her to one of the Hospitals to await for her husband to take her back. In another case three idle fellows who amused themselves by wearing female wigs, powdering their faces, and disguising themselves as females, intruded themselves upon the company of the fair sex. One of the girls, wiser than the rest discovered the fraud, and a hue and cry being raised, they were chased out of the sacred precincts. The crowd seized the rascals, and gave them a sound beating before they let them go.

THE WEATHER.

During the last few days, especially from the 16th to 21st inst., the temperature in Canton has been exceedingly warm, the thermometer ranging from 96 to 99 degrees in the shade, and there has not been a breath of wind to be had. The several charitable institutions in the city have been giving away freely cholera-medicines, cooling drinks, and tea.

Canton, 30th August.

ALL NEWSPAPERS SUPPRESSED.

All the newspaper offices here are closed to-day and their publication has been stopped by order of the Chinese Authorities. This is a penalty for publishing statements which they

ought not to have published. The measure is also dictated, it is supposed, by the apprehension that they might by their publication excite the feelings of the public.

[From another source we hear that the suppression is attributed to the fact that Canton papers reproduced from the papers here the report that the Japanese had succeeded in taking prisoner the Chinese Emperor.]

SWATOW.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 23rd August.

ANXIETY ALLAYED.

It is with a sigh of relief that I am writing to inform you that we have survived the eventful—or is it the uneventful?—28th day of this Chinese moon. It was the day on which all foreigners here were to be exterminated, but nothing at all occurred. It cannot be denied that those "in the know" did expect a disturbance of some sort and seem to have been well informed as to what was going on, for quite unexpectedly the German cruiser *Hertha* arrived outside the bar yesterday morning, from the North, with orders to land here a detachment of about 200 men for the protection of the foreigners. I say unexpectedly, because the community had no idea as to the coming of the German cruiser, there being already two men-of-war in port at present. On the arrival of the *Hertha* outside the bar, one of our local pilots delivered to the Commander a message from the German Consul, who, it appears, informed him that as everything was quiet, the cruiser's presence was consequently not needed. The *Hertha* left at about 5 o'clock in the afternoon for Hongkong, I believe.

A CORRECTION.

In my last letter I informed you that the French gunboat *Comète* with the French Consul from Canton on board arrived here. It is not the Consul from Canton, but the Vice-Consul from Lungchow who came. He has proceeded with two *weiyuens* from Canton to Chowchowfoo to investigate into the recent disturbances at Ungkung and the other places. Up to the time of writing the perpetrators of the outrages have not been captured.

AMOY.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Amoy, 24th August.

THE JAPANESE OCCUPATION.

This morning, at 2 o'clock, a small house in Amoy city used as a Japanese Buddhist Temple for some years was burnt. At 4 o'clock an armed party of some 60 men were landed from one of the Japanese men-of-war in port, marched to the scene, and returning an hour afterwards crossed the harbour to Kulangsu. Armed sailors fully equipped are parading the island with fixed bayonets. Several so-called Boxer placards have been collected by an energetic Japanese.

The Chinese say the owner of the premises had not received any rent for a long time, and that several days ago the priests removed most of the furniture, and that the place was burnt by themselves with the aid of kerosene; also that the placards were posted up by Japanese. The place is perfectly quiet and people peaceable; the armed party were not even insulted.

IS IT A GOT-UP AFFAIR?

It really looks very much like a pre-arranged affair with but one object in view, to create trouble. Amoy is extremely quiet and there is not the slightest cause for alarm.

Japan wants Amoy and is making a fair bid to get it, as the other Powers will find out when perhaps too late. The sooner a British, French and German battleship is here the better.

The transport *Hancock* on her last trip from Nagasaki to San Francisco made the passage in fourteen days, which is stated by Pacific shipping men to be the fastest on record.

Active steps are now being taken to establish public schools in the Philippines, and Dr. Atkinson, who is engaged in drafting a system of instruction, is to have the assistance of Professor David C. Barrow of the State Normal School at San Diego, California.

WUCHOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Wuchow, 27th August.

"SANDPIPER" LEAVES WUCHOW.

H. M. gunboat *Sandpiper* left Wuchow for down-river this morning, the 27th inst. There is no foreign gunboat here now.

THE STATE OF THE PORT.

A better feeling of security seems to prevail here now. Imports of foreign goods are beginning again, and the local banks are relaxing the tightness of the money market which has been the order of the day for the past two months. The news of the taking of Peking by the Allies is disbelieved by some and received by all with apathy.

A HITCH IN THE LEKIN SYNDICATE'S WORK.

The last copy of the *Times* to hand contains a statement from its Hongkong correspondent to the effect that the "Pekin" Syndicate have been ordered by Li Hung-chang to pay in \$300,000. This should of course be the *Lekin* Syndicate, and refers to the Syndicate of merchants who were to farm the Kwangtung *Lekin*. There has been some hitch about this affair, and the Syndicate have been given the right to collect the *Lekin* at various stations in the province for, it is said, three months, in order that they may recover the amount of bargain money already paid into the official treasury. The effect actions of this sort must have on trade can perhaps be only too well conceived by the Hongkong merchants, who are to a large extent the sufferers.

MANILA.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 14th August.

AMERICAN OFFICERS SANCTION THE TORTURE OF FILIPINOS—SOME INSTANCES.

From time to time rumours and stories of the torture of native prisoners by American officers have leaked out and started the rounds of officialdom; but usually the matter is quickly hushed up and inquiries result in denials or laughing remarks of a man's ability to enjoy pipe-dreams. Occasionally one runs across an enlisted man who happened to have been present when a torture was inflicted, and who is quite willing to talk about it, or perhaps an indiscreet officer, in an unguarded moment, lets fall a few words of the operation and boasts of how he brought the "hombre" to time.

It is a well known fact that the Macabebe scouts, and other native troops employed in the American service, stop at little or nothing when they desire to extract information or accumulate a little loot. These men are officered by Americans, who should be responsible for the conduct of their men, but in more cases than one would believe the outrages are overlooked or the men are allowed such opportunities that they can pursue their own sweet will in the matter of prisoners. With the Macabebes the most popular method of forcing unwilling prisoners to give information or part with some of their money is the "water cure."

TORTURE BY WATER.

This is usually applied by tying the unfortunate native down and strapping a gun or stick across his mouth in such a way that it is impossible to close it. Then water is steadily poured down the victim's throat; he cannot help swallowing it, and if the operation is continued any length of time the stomach becomes greatly distended, vomiting of a choking character follows and finally the lungs fill up. Cases have been heard of where the unfortunate men have been drowned. Usually a moderate application serves to make a man willing to swear to anything that the torturers desire. I do not say that American officers stand around and hide out the water or hold the native down, but these things go on in their commands and they must be cognizant of them.

MOCK HANGING.

Another method employed is to hang men up by the neck until nearly strangled, and then let them down and demand that the victim tell the location of guns and ammunition, or of insurgent troops, or perhaps merely of money or food. The garrison men of San Carlos tell queer tales of an officer, now a brigadier general of volunteers,

who hung up two men on the very scaffold that was built for the execution of two murderers, which was to take place on the following day. The story runs that two men, who were supposed to know the location of arms, were captured. Call these men ladrones, insurrectos, Chinamen, Filipinos or anything you like. They both denied knowing anything about the arms; threats failed to move them. Finally the angry officer through an interpreter told the prisoners that they would be hanged if they did not inform on their countrymen. They answered that if they gave any information they would be killed by their own people, so they might as well die at once. Accordingly one of them was strung up with a rope over the scaffold. His companion was placed so that he could see the execution. After a few seconds the man was taken down, but he still refused to speak. Up he was hoisted again and kept there until he fainted and was to all appearances dead when they laid him out on the ground. They were about to string up the other native, but believing his companion dead, he weakened and said he would guide the Americans to a place where guns were hidden. A few minutes later the other man recovered from his faint, and the informer was almost scared to death at being discovered. This is the story freely told at San Carlos.

If these things have come before official notice in Manila the public is not aware of it. Other cases could be cited that occurred in Panay and the Sulus.

CAPTAIN BRANDLE COURT-MARTIALED FOR A CRUEL AND ILLEGAL ASSAULT.

On August 8th the "General Orders" contained the report of the Brandle court-martial which was held just beyond the limits of Manila, at Camp Stotsenberg. Captain Brandle and Lieutenant Perkins, both of the 27th U. S. Volunteers, were in command of the village of Mariquina, near the pumping station that supplies Manila with water. While out scouting a sergeant of their command was killed; several natives were captured with some arms. Every effort was used to try to make the prisoners give information about the killing of the sergeant. Like any other men possessing a grain of commonsense or of loyalty to their people, whether they be guerillas or patriots (very likely they were of the band that killed the sergeant), they refused to give any information to their capturers. This apparently enraged the officers, who permitted, if not ordered, the natives to be hung up by their necks. Captain Brandle is charged with torturing two natives who were prisoners under his custody and entitled to his protection, and of unlawfully, wilfully and cruelly, commanding, directing and causing the said two natives to be hung by the neck with a rope for a period of about ten seconds, more or less, thus inflicting upon the said natives wounds causing great bodily pain. This was done in the presence of enlisted men and natives.

Lieutenant Alvin Perkins is charged with the same offences against six other natives at the same time on the same day. The charges and all specifications both officers pleaded a sweeping "Not guilty." A general court-martial, presided over by the colonel of the regiment, to which these officers belong, found Captain Brandle and Lieutenant Perkins guilty, with certain exceptions and deliberately sentenced the officers—to what?—to be reprimanded by the reviewing authority.

GENERAL MCARTHUR'S SEVERE CRITICISM.

The reviewing authority is General McArthur, and what he thinks of the proceeding is this. "In the foregoing cases of Captain George W. Brandle and second Lieutenant Alvin S. Perkins, 27th Infantry U. S. Volunteers, the findings and sentences are approved with the remark that the reviewing authority is of the opinion that in the case of the former a finding of guilty, on each of the specifications as laid without the exceptions and substitutions made by the court, would have been in full accord with the record," etc. Continuing he says, "It is obvious that a cruel and illegal assault was perpetrated by the accused officers upon certain native prisoners, an assault not only criminal in itself under the Laws of War, but in remote consequences well calculated to defeat a carefully considered policy, and to inflict permanent injury upon the essential interests of the nation. The purpose of the United States in these islands is to introduce and plant re-

publican institutions, based upon the beneficent principles of the Constitution. Success in the great and inspiring undertaking depends largely upon securing through a sense of self-interest and gratitude the confidence and attachment of the Filipino people."

"It is believed that the sentence of the court will be sufficiently executed by reminding Captain Brandle and Lieutenant Perkins that by reckless defiance of the ethics of their profession they have inflicted incalculable injury upon the interests of their country, and have also cast an unwarranted aspersion upon the reputation of the United States army for sentiments of honour and humanity." The officers have been released from arrest and returned to duty. The affair is looked upon pretty much in the same way as the seizure of the steamer *Belgica* was regarded some time ago. The punishment is a good thing and should be heavier, but these officers are unfortunate in being caught and made examples of, when there are so many others committing the same crimes who are not found out, and so escape sentence.

SANDAKAN NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Sandakan, 21st August.

THE CARRIER SERVICE.

Our local carriers—the Sabah S. S. Co., Ltd.—are paying the satisfactory dividend of 12 per cent. for the year ending 30th June last. This Company has three steamers now and intends buying or building another suitable craft without delay.

WHARF REPAIR AT LAST!

It will be good news to those interested to hear that the Sandakan Wharf is at last to be renewed; a contract for part of this work has been given out, and the material of the new structure is to be the famous Borneo Billian wood.

BORNEO REJOICING OVER PEKING'S RELIEF.

There is great jubilation here to-day, the news of the relief of the Peking Legations—with, presumably, all the Ministers and their families and staffs safe—having come quite unexpectedly. That this may mean a speedy, amicable settlement, which, however, must satisfy the combined Powers, is "a consummation devoutly to be wished." The effects on Borneo trade would be most serious were the trouble to last for any lengthened period.

H.M.S. "TERRIBLE" FUND.

THE DISPOSITION OF THE MONEY.

We have received the following letter and enclosure:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS,"
18, Bank Buildings,
27th August.

Sir,—I annex a summary of the accounts of the H.M.S. "Terrible" Fund made up to the 21st August, 1900, which shows a balance in the hands of the Hon. Treasurer of \$1,069.

I am now writing to Captain Scott to enquire whether he has any immediate use for the fund, in aid of the wounded or sick from the "Terrible." The cover for the address of welcome has been made, and it will be presented to Captain Scott with the address and the signatures upon the return of the "Terrible" here in the autumn.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

H. E. POLLOCK,

Hon. Sec.,

"Terrible" Reception Committee.

In account with the Honourable C. P. Chater, C.M.G.,
Hon. Treasurer.

Dr.	\$	c.
Dinner and smoking concert	2,674.70	
Gymkhana and sports	1,763.09	
Fete on cricket ground	1,233.26	
Kelly and Walsh for cover for address	39.50	
	\$5,785.55	
By balance	1,069.00	
	\$6,854.55	

Cr.	\$	c.
Subscription collected	6,831.00	
Interest at 2 per cent. allowed by Bank to 30th June	3.55	
	\$6,834.55	

SAILORS AND SOLDIERS' CHINA RELIEF FUND.

Already acknowledged \$440.00
 "Snipe" 5.00

THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

The ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders in the above company was held at noon on Tuesday, the 28th ult., in the Hotel. Mr. R. C. Wilcox presided and there were also present Messrs. E. Osborne, W. Parfitt (directors), G. M. Bain, V. H. Deacon, J. E. Gomes, Erich Georg, A. A. Gutierrez, W. Hutton Potts, F. Henderson, J. H. Cox, Henry Humphreys, R. Hutton Potts, W. A. Cruickshank, C. N. Young, N. G. Evans, T. F. Hough, A. C. Van Nierop, A. H. Skelton, A. G. Morris, C. J. Gonsalves, G. C. Muxon, S. Rustomjee, G. T. Veitch, J. C. Peter, Dr. D. E. Peterson, R. S. Philpott, E. S. Kelly, Ho Fook, Ho Kom Fong, Lo Cheung Shiu, Ho U Shan, Wong Ki Sam, Chan Chan Nam, Sang Kee, Leung King Shan, How Chok Lin, Leung Pui Chi, and C. Mooney (Secretary).

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, — With your permission, I propose to take the report and accounts, which have been in your hands upwards of a week, as read. The business of the Hotel during the past six months compares favourably with that of previous years, though it shows only a small advance on that for the same period of 1899. That, however, was our record, and it is very satisfactory that we have now beaten it, though by a merely trifling sum. We had hoped for a much better result, but the last two months showed a rather unexpected falling off, due no doubt to the tendency Pariswards of the tide of travellers this year. Be that as it may, we have the pleasure of laying before you what we take leave to consider a gratifying statement, and it is with much satisfaction your Directors are able to recommend an eight per cent. dividend. This is the highest interim dividend we have yet paid, and we should not feel justified in proposing it were not the prospects of the current half-year such as to warrant the belief that we shall be able to recommend an equal amount for the final dividend, making a return for the year of sixteen per cent. on the paid up capital. The Chairman at the last half-yearly meeting, on the 27th March, gave you an informal assurance that if business continued as it was then, we should be able to fully maintain this dividend, and I feel pretty safe in repeating this assurance. But I do not think we could safely promise to pay more. It is true that we have made a large sum of money, and that we have a small Reserve Fund, but we feel bound, as a measure of common prudence, to go on building up this fund, which will now stand at \$60,000. We must also provide liberally for depreciation, for wear and tear increases *pari passu* with the increase in visitors, and, I am sorry to add, the cost of replacing almost every article will be greater. The South African War has caused a rise in the prices of all goods imported from Great Britain, and recent changes in the Philippines, while largely augmenting the passenger traffic, have seriously enhanced the local cost of labour and of various articles of food, still further aggravated lately by the hostilities in North China. Last half-year nothing was set aside against repairs and renewals, and we have therefore felt compelled this half to devote the sum of \$10,000 to that purpose. I must ask you to remember, too, that the current half has always been regarded as the lean half of the year. Fortunately for us there is now no such striking difference in the receipts for the two half-years as formerly obtained. But we cannot, in the ordinary course, expect to do better than we did last year, and on that occasion a large sum had been carried forward, which materially swelled the amount available for appropriation. Mention is made in the Report of the fact that, while the business of the Company continues to progress, there are some directions in which much further expansion will be impossible in the existing Hotel premises. I allude to the bars, billiard and dining rooms. These unfortunately are inelastic, which is the more to be regretted since they are our best

paying departments. Whether or not something can be done to meet the requirements by utilising the small strip of land on the Reclamation is a matter for our early and anxious consideration, but already the question, so far as the dining room is concerned, has become urgent. Since the foregoing statement was prepared the Board have received the following letter, signed by thirty-five shareholders, having an aggregate holding of nearly 7,000 shares:—

Hongkong, 17th August.

The Board of Directors, Hongkong Hotel Co., Ltd.

"Dear Sirs,—We understand that it is your intention to declare an Interim Dividend of \$4 at the meeting of the shareholders convened for the 28th inst. Taking into consideration the appreciation in the value of land conjointly with that of building materials, we do not deem it necessary for the Company to set aside large sums of money for reserve or depreciation, and therefore request that you will see your way to increase the dividend to \$5.

We are, dear sir,

Yours faithfully,"

[Here follow 35 signatures.]

Now, gentlemen, we fully appreciate the importance of this communication, signed as it is by so large a proportion of the shareholders. But I note that it was written before the appearance of the Report, and I cannot help thinking that, with a fuller understanding of the position of the Company, many of those signatures would not have been appended, and possibly the letter might not have been written at all. I hope that all of you have the permanent good of the Company at heart, and that you would prefer to see it placed on a solid and enduring basis rather than adopt the vicious policy of squeezing the last cent out of it in dividends. I see you have not overlooked the fact that this is the interim and not the final dividend we are dealing with, but I would remind you that you cannot eat your cake and have it. If you take \$5 now it is not likely that you will get the same for the final dividend. Let us first see how the year pans out before increasing the dividend. Our correspondents ask us to take into consideration the appreciation of land conjointly with that of building materials, and this I can assure them we have done. But as we are now not likely either to buy or sell land we cannot regard the appreciation as any argument in favour of larger dividends. Moreover, this appreciation may not be altogether permanent, especially when our existing buildings no longer command an unrestricted view of the harbour. As for the rise in price of building materials, we find in that a cogent reason for carefully piling up a reserve fund, so that when we come to build on our reclamation we may not feel the enhanced cost of erection quite so severely. The wisdom of maintaining a Reserve Fund ought to be apparent to all business men. This remark applies with equal force to the setting aside of a sum to provide for Repairs and Renewals. In the former case we should have a Reserve to meet possible serious opposition and to provide for dividends when perhaps profits have, by such a cause, been reduced. In the latter case it is imperative to make ample provision for the repairs and renewals necessary in an old building, where both wood and plaster are perpetually requiring renewal. White ants have to be fought; dry rot is always going on silently in some part or other; and repairs to plaster are simply continuous. With regard to Furniture and Fixtures, we have, it is true, made an apparently liberal allowance in the present instance, but if you come to take into account the large increase in the value of this asset you will find the appropriation is far from excessive. This will be self-evident when I tell you that the Furniture and Fixtures now stand in our books at \$150,273, as compared with \$115,239 on the same date last year, \$99,153 on the 30th June, 1898, and \$81,863 on the 30th June, 1897. I may add that in the same half-year of 1899 we wrote off \$15,000, and for the corresponding six months of 1898 we wrote off \$10,000. As I have already remarked, the wear and tear has far more than doubled, and replacing prices are much higher. The disposal of the profits was not recommended, gentlemen, without most careful thought and discussion; and, under all the circumstances, your Directors feel that, as business men, to whom the permanent well-

being of the concern under their care is the paramount consideration, they cannot conscientiously see their way to increase the dividend from \$4 to \$5 per share as requested. Of course it is open to any of the shareholders to propose an amendment to the report to that effect, when we shall have to abide by the decision of the majority, but I trust I have said sufficient to convince you of the unsoundness of such a policy. However, we must leave the matter in your hands. If you decide to vote a larger dividend the responsibility will rest with you. Meantime I shall be pleased to answer any questions or give any further information within my power.

Mr. VEITCH said—The past half-year's working, resulting in a balance of \$94,794.71 for present appropriation, is a matter for congratulation, and shows the steady progress the company is making. When I come to consider the manner in which the directors propose making the appropriation I must confess to a feeling of disappointment. For the half-year ending 31st December, 1899, with somewhat smaller profits, shareholders received a 10 per cent. dividend. I see no substantial reason why a similar or even larger dividend should not now be paid, without in any way weakening the company's position. The amounts to be written off as recommended in the report appear somewhat excessive. For instance, it is proposed to write down Furniture and Fittings by \$20,000, reducing the book value to \$131,273.52. This means something over 13 per cent. Now, gentlemen, I read in the report for the half-year 3rd June, 1896: "The Directors consider that quite 10 per cent. should be yearly written off Furniture subject to such excessive wear and tear as that in the Hongkong Hotel." If at that time when the Furniture and Fittings of the Hotel were in an infinitely worse condition than at present 10 per cent. was considered sufficient to write off, surely there is no need with such an improved state of affairs as at present (and also bearing in mind that during the last two years a sum of \$48,440.82 has been written off, and the very substantial sum of \$99,560.81 expended in additions to furniture) to write off \$20,000 as recommended in the report. This is too large a sum, and I think \$10,000 would meet all the requirements of the case. I will take repairs and renewals. Although over \$7,000 was expended during the last six months, the average half-yearly expenditure under this heading for the last two years has been \$5,743; is there any necessity to now set aside \$10,000? To me there is no such necessity. With a heavier expenditure than usual during the first half, the repairs for the current half-year should at any rate not be more than the average. It was only in 1898 that more than \$14,000 was expended in what was described as special repairs in painting the Hotel premises, so that no further outlay under this head should be required for some time to come. I think \$7,000 a sufficient amount to set aside against repairs and renewals of reserve fund. Seeing that \$15,000 was transferred as per last report, if we now set aside \$10,000 ample provision will be made under this heading. Now, gentlemen, \$10,000 furniture, \$3,000 repairs, \$5,000 reserve less than recommended in the report give us an additional \$18,000 or \$1.50 per share more for dividend which might be distributed as dividend, making it \$5½ instead of \$4 as recommended in the report. I therefore beg to suggest that the balance of \$94,794.71 be appropriated as follows:—

To pay a dividend of \$5.50 per share absorbing.	\$66,000.00
To write off from value of Furniture and Fittings.	10,000.00
To set aside for repairs and renewals.	7,000.00
To addition to reserve fund.	10,000.00
To carry forward to new account.	1,794.71
	\$94,794.71

Mr. CRUICKSHANK—I have much pleasure in endorsing the remarks Mr. Veitch has let fall. I notice that the directors say in their report that "the wear and tear, consequent on the increase in the company's business, renders it necessary to make ample provision for depreciation in the furniture and fixtures, which, moreover, owing to the general rise in prices for manufactured goods, can only be replaced at a higher figure." It appears to me that we have spent during the last two years \$99,000, or

roughly \$100,000 in new stock, and I consider we should be justified in putting the appreciation against the depreciation, and this depreciation being put against the appreciation would bring the thing up very much on the same level. The sum of \$20,000 seems to me to be excessive.

Mr. MORRIS—Mr. Chairman, I support this proposition of Mr. Veitch's. I should like to ask what you have done with the reclaimed ground. I understand that it has been sold at \$20 a foot. You made some reference to it in your speech.

The CHAIRMAN—The reclamation in front of the Hotel has not been disposed of. You are alluding to a smaller piece, the corner lot on Chater Road. That has been disposed of, but it is a mere trifle of some 650 feet.

Mr. MORRIS—It is a mere trifle of \$12,000. If we look upon these things as trifles we may say that in asking for an increase in the dividend we are but asking for a trifle.

The CHAIRMAN—That amount belongs to capital. This transaction relates to the current half-year. There being no further questions I propose the adoption of the report.

Mr. MORRIS—Don't you think that the proposition by Mr. Veitch should be put?

The CHAIRMAN—It has not been put as a proposition.

Mr. MORRIS—Mr. Veitch has put it as an amendment.

Mr. VEITCH—No, I had not, but I will put it as an amendment. I thought perhaps the Chairman would have said something about my remarks.

The CHAIRMAN—The report must be proposed first, Mr. Veitch.

Mr. VEITCH—Oh! thank you.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed and Mr. MURRAY BAIN seconded the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. VEITCH then proposed the following as an amendment:—"To amend the report in the apportionment of credit balance as follows:—

To pay a dividend of 10 per cent. for the half-year, absorbing	\$60,000.00
To write off from value of Furniture and Fixtures	10,000.00
To set aside against Repairs and Renewals	10,000.00
To transfer to Reserve Fund	13,000.00
To carry forward to New Account	1,794.71
	\$94,794.71

Mr. CRICKSHANK—I have pleasure in seconding that amendment.

Mr. OSBORNE said—It is customary at Shareholders' Meetings for the Directors of a Company to voice their opinions through the Chairman of the Board, but the question before the meeting is, I think, of sufficient importance to justify a departure from this rule. Speaking for myself then I desire to place on record that I am entirely averse to the proposed increase of dividend, and I think I should be untrue to my trust were I to allow the proposal to pass without entering a most emphatic protest against what I believe to be a course that will act injuriously upon the permanent welfare of the Hotel Company. My reasons, gentlemen, are two. In the first place, I do not consider the earnings justify a higher dividend, because the appropriation of profits as suggested by the Report errs, if it errs at all, in not writing off enough from Furniture and Fixtures. Since 1895 we have spent in this direction \$134,855 and during the same period have written off \$85,040; this in my opinion is, if anything, inadequate, because a large proportion of the expenditure was upon carpets, cutlery, crockery, glassware and linen, on which the wear and tear is so great that I think it would be more correct to pay for such articles out of earnings and take no credit in the accounts for their existence. The outlay on Furniture and Fixtures will always constitute a very large item in our expenditure and necessarily so, because if you starve the business of its legitimate nourishment in the shape of up-to-date furnishing you will be starving the goose that lays the golden eggs. A well-appointed comfortable Hotel will thrive, but a mean, badly appointed one, such as we were a few years ago, will repel custom rather than attract it. As to my second reason, considering that only \$8,000 has been written off the value of our building and in view of the reconstruction of

the old portion of the Hotel which will have to be taken in hand before long, I think, considering these two points, that the cost of rebuilding should be met partially if not wholly out of the Reserve Fund, and for that purpose we should build up our Reserve in the days of prosperity. The argument that because our land has appreciated in value, because the cost of building has gone up, we should therefore pay a higher dividend, appears to me so monstrous, so unsound, that I can hardly think it has been put forward seriously. We have no surplus land, no bricks and mortar that we can turn into cash. We cannot cut chips off our land to sell when we need new carpets. Where then are we to procure the cash to pay these increased dividends? Are we to borrow from the Bank? I think, gentlemen, that if we were to ask the Bank for an overdraft to pay these dividends—dividends which in my opinion we have no right to pay—and were we to offer as security for the overdraft the appreciated value of our land—I think, gentlemen, the Bank's reply would be justified if it were more forcible than polite. These, then, are my reasons and, before you pass this resolution, I beg of you to ponder well what the effect will be. You will be forcing the Board to pay away in dividends—in spite of their mature judgment to the contrary—more than has been really earned and you will be creating a precedent, to follow which can only lead to one result, and that is a speedy return to the financial embarrassments and difficulties which hardly seven years ago threatened to close our career in the Bankruptcy Court.

Mr. PARFITT said—With reference to the letter signed by certain shareholders representing a large number of shares in this Company, asking the Directors to pay a larger dividend than they consider prudent on the ground that they (the signatories to the letter) "do not deem it necessary for the company to set aside large sums of money for reserve or depreciation," I would like to point out to the gentlemen present how much has been spent on Furniture and Fixtures during the past three years and how much will have been written off to partially meet that expenditure during the same period, provided the suggested putting aside of \$20,000 for the half-year of 30th June last be agreed to. I will read to you the figures:—

Amount written off from Furniture and Fixtures.	Cost of additions to repairs to Furniture & Fixtures.
31 Dec. 1897.....\$10,000	\$30,528.74
30 June 1898.....10,000	1,761.13
31 Dec. 1898.....8,440	14,287.29
30 June 1899.....15,000	20,239.99
31 Dec. 1899.....15,000	38,214.74
30 June 1900.....20,000	26,818.79
	\$78,440
equal to \$26.146 per annum.	\$131,850.68
	equal to \$43.950 per annum.

These figures (which all appear in the published reports) show conclusively that the sum of \$52,410.68 has, during three years, been spent on Furniture and Fixtures in excess of the amount which will have been put aside to meet that absolutely necessary expenditure. At first sight, I think it would appeal to any impartial observer that, instead of too much having been written off for depreciation, a dangerously inadequate sum had been reserved for that purpose, but I do not think there is any reason to go so far as to fear that, as for several years prior to the year 1896 the Hotel was absolutely starved for lack of funds to keep the furniture and fixtures in an efficient state, but by the big expenditure of money detailed above the effect of the years of starvation has been obliterated. Nevertheless, to keep the establishment in proper going order, it is, in my opinion, absolutely necessary to spend at the least \$30,000 per annum on the two items of Furniture and Fixtures, and it is obvious that the money cannot be spent if it is not put aside out of the profits. The account known as Fixtures covers expenditure on machinery and boilers in connection with the two hydraulic lifts, the distribution of hot and cold water throughout the building, the refrigerator and fire extinguishers, the laundry, &c., &c. Shareholders ought to bear in mind, when considering this question of dividend, that although the profit and loss account shows a profit of \$94,794.71, nothing has yet been deducted from the half-year's profits for upkeep of Furniture

and Fixtures. If we had, as some Companies do, deducted the actual cost of maintenance of those two items from the profits before we closed the half year's accounts, the balance of profit would appear as \$26,818 less than it does in the copy of the accounts now in your hands. I do not know if any of the gentlemen who signed the letter to the directors object to the setting aside of \$10,000 against repairs and renewals. If we are not allowed to do this the expenditure on these items during the current half-year must come out of profits for the same period. There is nothing at the credit of the account at the moment. The account of repairs and renewals provides for the upkeep of the building. It is manifest that the expenditure on keeping a building like the Hongkong Hotel weather-tight and of sufficiently attractive appearance to meet its trade costs a considerable sum of money. Certain of the company's shareholders appear to object to the reserve fund being maintained to the extent which the directors propose. If the suggested appropriation of profits is carried out the sum at credit of reserve fund will stand at \$60,000. I do not consider this at all a large fund for a company with a capital and debenture issue of \$825,000. The two largest and soundest business concerns in Hongkong are allowed by their proprietors to pay a much less proportion of their gross profits in dividends, and to transfer to their reserve funds a much larger proportion of their profits than the Hongkong Hotel Co. I refer to the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. and the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. The former company in their last half-yearly account showed a balance at credit of profit and loss account of \$929,637 (say one-third of the profit made), wrote off about \$241,000 and carried forward the balance of \$356,236 to the new account (that is to say, carried forward more than the dividend and bonus paid). The nett profits of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank on 30th June last were nearly 3½ million dollars; they paid a dividend of \$1,206,282, being only a trifle more than one-third of their profit, and put aside or carried forward most of the rest. I do not suppose that any of our shareholders really consider the Hongkong Hotel Co. a more stable institution, or one the property of which is less liable to wear out, than the Dock Co. and the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and I hope that they will regard it as but for their own interest to allow only moderate caution to be used in providing for fair wear and tear and possible strokes of evil fortune which every business is liable to. I hope the gentlemen present can be induced to accept the dividend of \$4 per share suggested by the Board of Directors.

No one else wishing to speak, the amendment was put to the meeting and carried, 22 voting for and 14 against.

The CHAIRMAN—Well, gentlemen, I declare the amendment carried. Yours is the responsibility if on any future occasion we have to give a leaner report.

On the motion of Mr. VEITCH, seconded by Mr. PHILPOT, Messrs W. Parfitt and B. C. Wilcox were re-elected directors.

On the motion of Mr. EDWIN GEORGE, seconded by Mr. MOXON, Messrs W. H. Potts and W. H. Gaskell were re-elected auditors.

The CHAIRMAN—Dividend warrants will be ready on Thursday next. They are not yet made out.—We knew that there was likely to be some opposition, and therefore we did not make them out. That is all the business before the meeting. I have to thank you for your attendance.

On the motion of Mr. VEITCH, a vote of thanks was accorded the Chairman and his co-directors.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, I have to thank you for your vote on behalf of myself and colleagues.

The *Glengyle*, freightship, is bringing to Hongkong four 40ft. steam pinnaces armed with 12-pounder q.f. guns for river work in China, several field mountings for naval guns, and large quantities of spare gun gear.

The Directors of the Welcome Mining Company, Limited, have received the following telegram from the Mines:—White Reef, at the bottom of the shaft, have struck very rich ore and expect it to continue; samples from this assayed 7 ozs. 1 dwts per ton.

HONGKONG COTTON SPINNING, WEAVING AND DYEING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to shareholders at the third ordinary meeting to be held at the office of the General Managers on Monday, 3rd September, at 4 p.m.:

The General Managers now submit a statement of receipts and expenditure together with the result of the working of the mill up to 15th August.

The profit and loss account for the period under review is attached and shows a debit balance of \$144,588.47, an unfortunate result for which interest is largely responsible.

The working account shows a loss of \$69,637.79, in which, however, is included a sum of \$24,797.94 disbursed in erecting machinery, &c., which, of course, is an item that would not appear again.

It is apparent that the Company is very much under-capitalized, and the consideration of this subject will be introduced to the shareholders at the coming meeting.

The Company has had to struggle against grave difficulties in connection with labour supply, and, at one time during the plague epidemic, deaths and panic reduced our working to 10,000 spindles.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

The General Managers regret to record the death of Mr. Lee Sing, whose seat at the Board has not been filled.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. W. Hutton Potts, and that gentleman offers himself for re-election.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 22nd August 1900.

BALANCE SHEET.

LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Capital	900,000.00	
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	1,529,943.98	
Beith, Stevenson & Co.	8,416.12	
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	6,905.07	
Accounts payable	7,223.78	
	\$2,452,489.25	

ASSETS.

	\$	c.
Land	44,212.86	
Buildings	578,941.15	
Machinery	1,101,424.82	
Water supply	1,489.93	
Stock of raw cotton and cotton in process	80,767.00	
Stock of yarn	457,048.50	
Stock of waste	2,306.00	
Mill stores	26,146.00	
Stock of coals	442.00	
Preliminary expenses	1,464.59	
Furniture	2,157.00	
Accounts receivable	924.85	
Fire insurance, unexpired premium	10,576.08	
Balance of profit and loss account	144,588.47	
	\$2,452,489.25	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	\$	c.
To balance of working account	69,637.79	
To interest	74,629.68	
To auditor's fees for two years	500.00	
To directors' fees (not charged)	\$5,000.00	
To office allowance and commission to General Managers (not charged)	11,582.18	
	\$144,767.47	
Cr.	\$	c.
By transfer fees	179.00	
By balance	144,588.47	
	\$144,767.47	

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

"C" MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

The August shoot for the "Capt. Potts" Cup resulted in Gunner Shoolbred registering his second win in this competition. There was a very poor attendance, no doubt due to the heat. Scores:—

	200	400	500	Handi-	To-
	yds.	yds.	yds.	cap.	tal.
* Gunner Shoolbred	33	29	29	6	97
Sergeant Smillie	28	29	24	—	81
Corporal Sherwin	29	20	15	10	74
Gunner C. Lee	24	26	10	13	73
Gunner Millar	24	21	20	8	73

* Spoon winner.

THE GYMKHANA.

The fourth gymkhana of the season took place on the Race Course at Happy Valley on Saturday afternoon, the 25th ult. A thunderstorm came on after tiffin and it looked as if the meeting would have to be postponed. Later on, however, the weather cleared up, and all the events were gone through with the exception of the Sepoy race, it being too late to run that off. H. E. the Governor (Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G.) was among those present. The results of the different events are given below:—

LADIES NOMINATION.—Orange Race.—6 Chairs. 2 Runs. Man on pony to pick oranges off chairs and toss above head, going full speed. Points deducted for lack of pace. Entrance fee \$1. Prize from Gymkhana Fund. The following were the entries:

Mr. Moxon	nominated by Mrs. Moxon
Lieut. Wilkin	" Mrs. Hewat
Mr. Cruickshank, R.A.	" Mrs. Sansom
Capt. Lobing	" Miss Blake
Mr. Anderson	" Mrs. Koe
Mr. Cox	" Miss Potts
Mr. Gresson	" Mrs. Gray
Mr. Cruickshank	" Miss Hancock
Mr. Brutton	" Mrs. Grace
Mr. Looker	" Mrs. Wildman
Capt. Goodwin	" Mrs. Campbell

The winner of the first prize was Captain Goodwin, Mr. Brutton coming second.

TENT-PEGGING AND TURK'S HEAD; 3 runs; points for pace; points:—3 for Turk's Head, 5 for a take, 3 for a draw, 1 for a touch. No restrictions as to animals; 1st prize presented by H.E. Major-General Gascoigne, C.M.G. 2nd prize, \$15. The following had entered:—Lieut. Wilkin, R.N., Mr. Mulliken, Capt. Goodwin, Mr. Cruickshank, Major Kettlewell, Mr. Rudkin, Mr. Melville, Mr. Casserly, and Capt. the Hon. H. W. Trefsis.

Mr. Cruickshank won the first prize and Lieut. Wilkin the second.

1/2 Mile Race.—For all China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Penalties:—winners 1 race this season 5 lbs.; 2 races, 7 lbs.; 3 races, 10 lbs. Four to start or no race. 1st Prize presented by J. H. Lewis, Esq. 2nd prize, \$1. Hon. R. M. Gray's Tube Rose 11st. 8lb. (Mr. Cruickshank) 1

Mr. G. H. Potts's Forest King, 11st. 9lb. (Mr. Wilkin) 2

Hon. J. J. Keswick's Beachnut, 11st. 8lb. (Mr. Gresson) 3

Mr. Wilhel's Minor, 11st. 10lb. (owner) 0

Mr. G. H. Potts's Interrogation, 11st. 4lb. (Mr. Cox) 0

Mr. Cruickshank's Black Rose, 10st. 12lb. (Mr. Brutton) 0

POLE BALL RACE.—In pairs, alternate strokes, round a post and back through goal. All polo ponies. 1st prize presented by Hon. F. H. May. The following had entered:—

Mr. Mulliken and Capt. Loring, Messrs. Gresson and Cruickshank, Mr. Rudkin and Major Kettlewell, Messrs. Casserly and Melville

Messrs. Gresson and Cruickshank were the winners.

LADIES NOMINATION.—Different coloured ribbons are put into sealed envelopes and given to the ladies. Gentlemen ride over hurdle to flag, dismount, and take an envelope from basket, ride back over hurdle to winning post. Lady possessing corresponding colour to that in man's envelope first past post wins. 2 prizes from Gymkhana. The following had entered:—

Mr. Moxon nominated by Mrs. Moxon.
Mr. Cruickshank " Mrs. Sansom.
Capt. Loring " Miss Blake.
Mr. Anderson " Miss Hancock.
Mr. Cox " Mrs. Gray.
Mr. Gresson " Miss Hartigan.
Mr. Cruickshank " Miss Potts.
Mr. Brutton " Mrs. Grace.
Mr. Looker " Mrs. Wildman.

The Marquis of Tweeddale, K.T., has resigned his position as chairman, and the Boards of Directors of the Eastern Telegraph and Eastern Extension, Australasia and China Telegraph companies have elected as his successor Sir John Wolfe Barry, K.C.B. The Marquis of Tweeddale retains his seat as a director on both Boards.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB.

The Football Club's report of the season 1899-1900 shows a balance of \$103.92 to the credit of the Club on 31st August, 1900. The following record shows the results of the matches played under Rugby and Association rules:—

Rugby	Lost	2	Points against	29
	Won	7	for	97
Association	Lost	5	Goals for	25
	Drawn	3	against	17
	Won	11		
A. Team	Lost	1	Goals for	9
Association	Drawn	3	against	7
	Won	3		

The Six-a-side Challenge Cup was won by Mr. J. F. Noble's team. Mr. C. T. Kew kindly presented six medals to the winning team.

After getting through the 1st round of the Shield the Club were knocked out in the 2nd round by "G" (O. R. W. F. by 2 goals to 1).

Although the Committee regret that the Club did not figure in the Final they feel that it is in the interests of the Competition that the Shield should change hands as often as possible.

Fifteen teams entered for the Competition as against 18 last year: the uncertain movement of the British squadron preventing, with one exception, any Naval teams entering.

The Committee regret to report that a good deal of feeling arose, in the course of the Competition, in connection with the refereeing. An endeavour will be made to guard against this in the coming season.

The Shield fund shows a balance in hand of \$145.66.

The Committee are glad to report a large increase in the number of members chiefly due to the erection of the matshed. During the season 85 new members were elected.

Two Charity matches were played in aid of the Transvaal War Fund and the sum of \$562.57 was handed over to the Fund.

The Committee are glad to be able to report that the experiment of starting a 2nd Association team proved a successful one, and that many members availed themselves of the opportunity of taking part in the matches.

The Six-a-side Competition will commence as early in September as possible and the regular season as soon as the Competition is over.

The Sixth Annual Dinner took place at the Hongkong Hotel on the 24th March last and 28 members and guests were present.

The Annual Meeting for the purpose of receiving the Committee's report on the last season and for electing the Committee and officers for the forthcoming season will be held in the Cricket Pavilion on Monday, the 3rd September, at 5 p.m.

HONGKONG.

For returning from banishment Lai Po was on the 27th ult. sentenced to 12 months' hard labour. He was banished for five years on the 30th December, 1897.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum last week included 233 non-Chinese and 65 Chinese to the former, and 408 non-Chinese and 1,871 Chinese to the latter institution. The Library was closed for repairs for three days.

At the Magistracy on the 25th ult. Sanitary Inspector L. E. Brett gave evidence against the owners of six houses for neglecting to concrete ground surfaces. A fine of \$10 per house was imposed. The owners of six houses were also fined \$15 per house for a breach of the regulations as to backyards.

George Waddell, of Ormsby Terrace, Kowloon, gave evidence at the Magistracy on the 25th ult. against his boy, who had left his service without notice and whom he also charged with stealing an umbrella. The boy, who said he ran away because his master ill-treated him, was sent to prison for a month.

Tsang Wo Sang, tallyman, appeared at the Magistracy on the 29th ult. to answer a charge of being drunk and incapable. A Chinese constable found him rolling in the gutter at West Point on Tuesday night in a helpless state of intoxication, singing snatches of English music hall songs, such as "Let 'em all come," etc. He was taken to No. 7 Police Station, and was yesterday fined \$3, or 14 days.

At about half-past eight p.m. on the 23rd ult. the *Bising Star* ferry launch collided with No. 6 Dock Launch as she was backing away from the *Tsinan*, making a hole four feet long in her side. The ferry launch also suffered considerably.

The prisoner who escaped from the detention room at the Magistracy on Tuesday was recaptured at Wanchai on Wednesday. P. C. Rutledge was brought before Mr. Hazeland for allowing the men to escape from his custody and was discharged with a caution.

Kwok Li was sentenced on the 29th ult. to 12 months' hard labour for returning from banishment. He was banished on the 11th April last. The man is an old offender, there being against him three charges of returning from banishment and three of larceny.

A sailor named John Moore got too much to drink on the night of the 23rd ult., and created something of a scene in Queen's Road West by banging a rickshaw about. Lance-Sergeant Kerr interfered and took him to the Police Station. On the 24th ult. he was fined \$10, or a month, for disorderly conduct.

For being in possession of a dagger without a permit a Chinaman was on Wednesday fined \$250, or three months. It appears that on Tuesday night he went to a brothel at No. 28, Temple Street, Hunghom, where a girl who formerly lived with him was staying. He had been after her to the house several times and threatened to murder her unless she returned to him, and on his going again on Tuesday night the police were sent for.

It would be well if householders on the upper roads would be on the guard just now, as quite a number of loose characters are prowling about to see what they can pick up. On the 24th ult. the police found three men watching a bungalow. One of them was seen to enter the grounds and then come out again. On the police making their appearance one of the men escaped. The other two were brought before Mr. Hazeland on the 25th ult. and sentenced to two months' hard labour as rogues and vagabonds.

A boiler-maker, who goes by the name of Lai Ning, was charged at the Magistracy on the 25th ult. with burglariously entering houses Nos. 1 and 3, Kennedy Street, and stealing therefrom tools to the value of \$30. He had obtained an entry by removing some bricks by the side of the door. When coming out with the tools he was discovered and a hue and cry raised, and he was caught by a constable who happened to be in the vicinity. The man was sentenced to six months imprisonment, the first and last fortnights in solitary confinement.

Mr. James Marshall, storehouseman at the Naval Yard, noticed some 20 baskets of coal being carried into a shop. Suspecting that they had not been come by honestly he approached Lance-Sergeant Angus, who entered the shop and found some men busily engaged in carrying the coal to the back premises. The occupier of the shop, Tam Wai, could give no satisfactory explanation as to how he had obtained possession of the coal, and in consequence he was fined \$25 or two months on the 24th ult. for being in unlawful possession.

William Howard, an R. A. man from the transport *Antillian*, was in Arsenal Street on the night of the 23rd ult. under the influence of liquor. He had just got out of a rickshaw, and when fumbling about his pockets complained to another Artillery man, named Charles Buckland, that he had lost some money. Suspecting the rickshaw coolie, Buckland searched him and found on him a half-sovereign and four crown pieces, which Howard claimed as his. The coolie, Chan Chik, was on the 24th ult. sentenced to three months' hard labour for his dishonesty.

On the 23rd ult. some boatmen were having a game at cards on a boat at Yaumati when a Chinaman—Fung In—came bustling up to them. The man declared that he was a constable and said that if 50 cents was not forthcoming there would be trouble. The men did not seem inclined to let him have the 50 cents and he accordingly drew a truncheon and struck one of them twice. Subsequently a genuine police-officer appeared on the scene. He searched the bogus constable and found him in possession of a bayonet and a sword. For being in possession of arms without a permit the man was fined \$250, or three months, and for impersonating a police-officer he was fined \$100, or three months, one sentence to follow the other.

The plague figures for the year up to noon yesterday stood at 1,053 cases and 995 deaths.

On Sunday Sergeant Garrod found Lau Chee delivering letters from Sam Shui which had not been through the post. He arrested him, and on the 27th ult. the man was fined \$100.

Admiral Geissler and the principal officers of the German squadron in the harbour paid their official calls on Wednesday morning on H. E. the Governor and on H. E. Major-General Gascoigne.

A coolie named Kwan Fung was passing a stall containing some clothing on the 25th ult. when he could not resist the temptation to endeavour to appropriate some of it. He accordingly got hold of six jackets and took to his heels. The hawk was, however, too sharp for him, catching him before he had got far. On the 27th ult. Mr. Hazeland sentenced the man to two months' hard labour.

Mrs. Maria Monterio, of No. 14, Elgin Street, on Monday called up two boys who were selling sweets and bought some sweets from them. When leaving one of them got hold of an umbrella belonging to her and took to his heels. Both, however, were brought before Mr. Hazeland on the 28th ult. and sentenced each to two months' hard labour (the last 14 days in solitary confinement) and 14 strokes with the birch rod.

Much annoyance is caused the residents of the upper levels by crowds of men and boys throwing stones at their guava trees, and in consequence of complaints made to the police, constables in plain clothes have been set to watch for offenders. On Sunday afternoon a Chinese constable in plain clothes saw some men and boys amusing themselves by throwing stones at some guava trees in Robinson Road. On his saying to them "Don't throw at those trees," he was told to mind his own business, and ultimately the crowd turned on to him and began to stone him. He rushed forward to arrest some of them but they took to their heels. One of them, however, fell and injured his arm. The constable seized him and on the 27th ult. brought him before Mr. Hazeland, who fined him \$10, or a month.

A boy aged 15, named Lo Kau, was charged on the 27 ult. with stealing \$4. The complainant, Chan Yau, is a coolie just returned from Singapore. He was on the Praya on Sunday afternoon eating some congee when the defendant stole up to him and tore his coat pocket away. The pocket contained \$4 in small change and the money was scattered about. A number of coolies rushed forward and picked the money up. The defendant was caught while similarly engaged. It is supposed that the other coolies were accomplices. The complainant caught him and gave him into custody. In answer to His Worship Inspector Warnock said the boy had been previously convicted. His Worship: This boy is going to turn out a regular thief. Inspector Warnock: Yes; there is a gang of boys going about in this way. The boy was sentenced to two months' hard labour, the last fortnight to be passed in solitary confinement. He was also ordered to receive 12 strokes with the birch.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1900-1	1899-00
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	15,571,783	15,853,095
Kobe	6,498,079	7,154,042
	22,069,862	23,007,137

SILK.

CANTON, 17th August.—Silk.—Tsatlees.—No settlements are reported. Re-reels. Settlement of 50 bales Re-reels No. 1 is reported at \$650. Filatures.—There has been a fair amount of business at daily declining prices. The desire to sell is caused by the tightness of money and the wish to procure same to buy 4th crop Cocoons, it is also ascribed to fear of complications in the South on account of the advance of Foreign troops to Pekin. From prices paid we quote: \$745 for Kwong Shun Cheong 11/13 and 13/15, \$670 to \$700 for How King Cheong 13/15, \$620 to \$640 for Good No. 11/13 and 13/15. Short-reels—

Still continue neglected, and prices are almost nominal. Waste.—About 500 bales have been done at \$78 to \$80. The market closes weak. We append quotations in Canton, with laying down cost in London and Lyons. Exchange 3 months' sight, 2/0 1/4, and Fcs. 2.59 per Dollar.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1900-1901	1899-00
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	11,600	24,021
Canton	—	—
Yokohama	1,420	3,667
	13,020	27,688

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1900-1901	1899-00
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	1,270	1,795
Canton	—	—
Yokohama	2,670	4,782
	3,940	6,577

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 31st August.—The upward tendency continues, market being brisk. Quotations for Formosa are:—\$94.50 to \$95.00, sales 400 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 31st August.—The downward tendency continues, market being very dull. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$7.54 to \$7.58	pol.
do. " 2, White.....	6.95 to 7.00	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ...	5.15 to 5.19	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	4.95 to 5.00	"
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	7.62 to 7.67	"
do. " 1, White.....	7.02 to 7.07	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown ...	4.98 to 5.02	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	4.90 to 4.93	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	11.34 to 11.38	"
Shekloong "	9.89 to 9.93	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per P. & O. s.s. *Banca*, sailed 23rd August. For Manchester:—75 bales waste silk. For London:—1,497 half-chests tea, 511 boxes tea, 43 pkgs. tea from Amoy, 205 boxes tea from Macao, 11,317 boxes tea, 1,291 pkgs. firecrackers, 523 bales canes, 335 bales pierced cocoons, 150 bales waste silk, 334 rolls mats and matting, 20 A cases bristles, 2 cases birdskins, 34 cases P. L. fans, 2 cases bird feathers, 32 cases chinaware, 15 cases woodware, 5 cases bambooware, 2 cases copperware, 1 case flowerwater, 1 case wooden s'ple, 3 cases curios, 4 cases porcelain, 2 cases private effects, 1 box silverware, 1 box pictures, &c. 2 boxes chinaware. For Marseilles:—60 bales canes, 27 bales human hair.

Per steamer *Weimar*, sailed 23rd August. For Suez:—4 cases tea. For Port Said:—12 rolls matting, 2 cases woodenware, 2 cases Chinaware. For Odessa:—377 cases cassia. For Genoa:—70 bales raw silk, 25 cases essential oil. For Trieste:—1,300 boxes cassia, 222 half-chests tea, 100 bales rattan shaving. For Genoa/Hamburg:—20 bales canes. For New York:—6 cases essential oil. For Antwerp:—470 bales broken cassia, 183 bales feathers, 100 bales split bamboo, 92 packages tea, 40 bales bamboo scraps, 16 cases ginger, 7 cases pineapples. For Antwerp/Hamburg:—90 boxes bristles, 50 boxes gallnuts, 38 bales feathers. For Antwerp/Hamburg/London:—499 bales broken cassia, 100 boxes gallnuts, 62 boxes bristles. For Amsterdam, 280 boxes ginger, 250 casks ginger, 200 rolls matting. For Amsterdam/Rotterdam:—302 cases ginger, 100 boxes cassia, 1 case curios. For Rotterdam:—299 boxes cassia, 105 rolls matting, 100 bales broken cassia, 50 casks ginger, 10 cases teastick, 9 bundles canes. For Montevideo:—100 packages tea. For Manchester:—125 bales waste silk. For London:—00 casks ginger, 25 boxes bristles. For Bremen:—129 rolls matting. For Bremen/London:—20 boxes bristles. For Hamburg:—1,408 packages tea, 450 boxes cassia, 255 bales feathers, 200 bales broken cassia, 161 bales canes, 96 cases bristles, 70 cases palm fans, 28 bales bamboo, 15 cases preserves, 13 cases black woodware, 12 boxes human hair, 10 boxes camphorwood trunks, 8 casks ginger, 4 cases cigars. For Hamburg/Bremen:—199 bales cotton. For Hamburg/London:—30 bales canes, 10 boxes bristles. For Copenhagen:—250 boxes cassia.

Per American ship *S. P. Hitchcock*, sailed on 28th August. For New York:—26,775 rolls matting, 1,026 bales rattancore, 1,000 cases broken cassia, 798 boxes cassia, 594 pkgs. firecrackers, 300 cases p. l. fans, 126 bales straw-braid, 100 casks soy, 100 cases cassia buds, 90 cases heather brushes, 83 bales canes, 55 cases Chinaware, 50 cases strawcuffs, 40 pkgs. rattanware, 6 cases camphorwood trunks.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 31st August.—Malwa.—A good business has been done in all descriptions at the following rates. New \$830/880 and old \$890/920.

Bengal.—In consequence of the fresh supplies of Patna turning out of extra heavy weight, there has been a good demand for this drug, and a fair amount of chests changed hands at \$925/932, closing firm. Old stock is quoted at \$930. Benares changed hands at \$915/920, closing steady.

Persian.—Superior quality is being sold at \$890/890, while other kinds are utterly neglected.

STOCK.

Patna.....	1,096
Benares.....	578
Malwa.....	648
Persian.....	2,059½

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 31st August.—Very small sales at a slight decline. Closing quiet. Stock, about 2,800 bales.

Bombay.....	21.00 to 22.00 picul.
Bengal (New), Rangoon, and Dacca.....	22.00 to 24.00 "
Shanghai and Japanese.....	28.00 to 28.50 "
Tungchow and Ningpo.....	28.00 to 28.50 "

Sales: about 105 bales.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 31st August.—The market has continued to weaken throughout the past fortnight, and the bulk of sales reported below show a decline of \$1 to \$2 per bale on late quotations. A fair demand has been experienced, and some 5,162 bales have found buyers, business being principally confined to best spinnings of favourite chops, while other tickets coming under the category of "best" but in less favour with the dealers have been passed over for lower prices. Low class threads are still unsaleable, but the heavier counts are somewhat in request, as the season for them has now commenced.

The tightness of money, combined with the stagnation of trade generally throughout the Empire, prevents the possibility of any improvement taking place in the near future. Now that the Allies have entered Peking and confidence is practically restored, an improvement in country demand may be reasonably looked for, and one of the first articles to feel the influence will be cotton twist, but whether an improvement in price will take place is difficult to foretell.

Local Manufacture.—Sales of 100 bales No. 10s. at \$85 and of 75 bales No. 12s. at \$89 of the Hongkong S. W. and Dyeing Mills are reported.

Japanese Yarn.—The market is again firmer and a general improvement of \$1 per bale is observable in the limited business effected during the interval, say 100 bales Kanegafuchi and 50 bales Miike No. 16s. at \$100, and 50 bales Ashai and 75 bales Settau No. 20s. at \$98. Close firm, some holders refusing current rates.

Raw Cotton.—Continues to move very slowly, and with the exception of a sale of 55 bales Superfine machine-ginned Bengal at \$24 no business in any other description is reported. The stock of Indian staple is estimated at about 1,400 bales. Quotations are:—Bengal \$20 to \$26, Rangoon \$18 to \$24, and China \$25 to \$26.

Exchange and India has slightly advanced and closes strong to-day at Rs. 152½ for T/T and Rs. 159½ for Post. On Shanghai 71½.

Shanghai advises to the 17th instant report the unreported limited business in imported and local spinnings during the small interval of 5 days, viz:

Indian.—Total sales, 1,263 bales, comprising 590 bales No. 10s., 25 bales No. 16s., and 648 bales No. 20s., prices remaining with little alteration as those last given and market closing steady. The stock was estimated at about 42,000 bales.

Japanese Yarn.—Sales of about 350 bales No. 16s. and No. 20s. have been effected at or about late quotations, say Tls. 71 to 73 for No. 16s. and Tls. 72½ to 74 for No. 20s., market closing strong and bare of stock.

Local.—The only business reported in these threads is about 800 bales No. 12s. and 14s. Ewo's Dragon at Tls. 62 and 63½ respectively, market closing steady.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 31st August.—The prices are going upward, the rich people in the different villages laying up large stores for any emergency on account of the present crisis. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.77 to 2.82
" Round, Good quality.....	2.92 to 2.96
" Long.....	3.30 to 3.34
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2.....	2.93 to 2.97
" Garden, " No. 1.....	3.33 to 3.37
" White.....	3.94 to 3.98
" Fine Cargo.....	4.13 to 4.17

COALS.

HONGKONG, 31st August.—Large sales of Cardiff at \$85 and \$86 and sales of Japanese at current rates. Quotations are:—

Cardiff.....	\$36 ex ship
Australian.....	\$14.00 to \$14.50 ex godown, nominal
Yubari Lump.....	\$11.00 ex godown
Miki Lump.....	8.00 to 8.50 nominal
Moji Lump.....	\$7.00 to \$9.50 ex ship, steady
Hongay double screened.....	10.50 ex godown
Hongay Lump.....	8.50 ex ship
Hongay Dust.....	5.50
Briquettes.....	14.50 ex godown

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 31st August.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn.—900 bales No. 10 at \$83 to \$90, 600 bales No. 12 at \$89 to \$92, 250 bales No. 16 at \$94 to \$98.50, 1,300 bales No. 20 at \$94 to \$104.

COTTON YARN—

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	per bale	\$75.00 to \$106.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....		114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....		120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....		136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....		155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.....	per piece	2.05 to 2.15
7 lbs.....		2.30 to 2.40
8.4 lbs.....		2.90 to 3.05
9 to 10 lbs.....		3.80 to 4.05
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.....		2.60 to 2.80
58 to 60.....		3.25 to 4.00
64 to 66.....		4.30 to 5.10
Fine.....		5.20 to 7.80
Book-folds.....		4.40 to 6.30
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....		0.78 to 1.60
T. Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.....		1.70 to 1.85
7lbs. (32 ").....		2.00 to 2.20
8lbs. (32 ").....		1.90 to 2.10
7lbs. (32 ").....		2.40 to 2.80
8 to 8.4 oz. (36 in.).....		2.80 to 3.50
Drills, English—40 yds., 14 to 16 lbs.....		4.20 to 7.10

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs.....	per yard	1.55 to 5.00
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Brocades—Dyed..... — to —

Chintzes—Assorted..... 0.08½ to 0.17

Velvets—Black, 22 in..... 0.22½ to 0.60

Velveteens—18 in..... 0.20 to 0.22½

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk..... 0.36 to 2.50

WOOLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops..... 0.80 to 1.50

Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths..... 1.25 to 2.50

Long Ells—Scarlet..... 6.40 to 10.00

Assorted..... 6.50 to 10.10

Camlets—Assorted..... 12.50 to 32.00

Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches..... 8.00 to 20.00

Assorted..... 8.50 to 10.00

Orleans—Plain..... 8.50 to 10.00

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs..... 4.00 to 18.00

METALS—

Iron—Nail Rod.....	per picul	4.80 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.).....		4.80 to —
Swedish Bar.....		7.00 to —
Small Round Rod.....		5.50 to —
Hoop ½ to 1½ in.....		5.75 to —
Wire 5/25.....		8.00 to —
Old Wire Rope.....		2.50 to —
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop.....		10.10 to —
Australian.....		10.10 to —
Yellow M'tal—Munts. 14/20 oz.....		37.00 to —
Vivian's. 14/20 oz.....		38.00 to —
Elliot's. 14/20 oz.....		36.00 to —
Composition Nails.....		60.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs.....		37.50 to —
Tin.....		60.00 to —

Tin-Plates..... 7.50 to —

Steel ½ to ¾..... 6.75 to —

SUNDRIES—

Quicksilver.....	per picul	160.00 to —
Window Glass.....	per box	5.50 to —
Kerosene Oil.....	per 10-gal. case	2.57½ to —

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 31st August.—With the exception of a further advance in Hongkong Lands, Indo-Chinas, and Docks, there is nothing of any importance to report. The market continues dull; business limited, but rates well maintained.

BANKS.—A few small sales have been effected at quotations. The London rate remains unchanged at £57. Nationals have been dealt in to some extent at \$27.

MARINE INSURANCES.—The market continues dull and neglected, with no business to report.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs remain on offer at \$295, but Chinas have changed hands and are wanted in a small way at \$76.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have found buyers at \$30, closing steady at that rate. Indos have advance to \$86 with but a small business at that, and previously at \$82 and \$83. Douglases are reported at \$50, but no sales have been made. China Mutuals and China Manilas unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars are obtainable at quotation, but no business is reported. Luzons unchanged and without business.

MINING.—Punjoms are on offer at \$5 without inducing sales. Charbonnages are enquired for at \$250, but are not obtainable. Oliver's B's and Great Easterns have changed hands in small lots at quotations. Jelebas after sales at \$8½ have advanced to \$11 with sales. Raubs continue quiet and without sales at \$54.

DOCKS WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks after small sales at 500 and 502½ per cent. prem. have advanced to 530 per cent. prem. with buyers and few if any sales. Kowloon Wharves close quiet at \$86 and \$59 ex div., with only small sales at \$60 (new issue) to report. Wanchais have changed hands and close steady at quotation. Amoy Docks remain quiet and without business.

LANDS HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands changed hands in the early part of the week at \$165 and \$166 in small unimportant lots, and later, although the rate rose to \$170 and \$173, but very few shares were obtainable to satisfy a steady demand for cash and forward delivery. The market closed firm at \$173 with no sellers. Hotels continue quiet with sellers and no sales at \$118 ex dividend of \$5 paid on the 30th inst. Humphreys have been placed in small lots at \$11, and West Points at \$47½ and \$48.

COTTONS.—Hongkong Cottons after small sales at \$22 are enquired for in a small way at \$19, but none seem forthcoming under \$21. For the Northern Mills are taken from the latest Shanghai circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Cements have found buyers at \$20½ and \$20½, closing with buyers at the former rate. Ices could be placed in small odd lots at \$165. China Providents have changed hands at \$9½.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		[\$506½, buyers
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	305 p. ct. prem.=
China & Japan, ordy.	24	21.
Do. deferred	21	25 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares		\$27, sales & buyers
B. Shares	28	\$27, buyers
Foun. Shares...	28	\$20.
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	21	\$14, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$20.
China Prov. L. & M....	\$10	\$9.50, sales & bys.
China Sugar	\$100	\$112, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 375.
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 40.
Hongkong	\$100	\$21, sellers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$8½, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo....	\$25	\$48.
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$20½, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$118.
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$104, sellers
"	\$10	\$2, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$170, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$118, ex d., sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$165, [sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G....	\$50	\$86½, ex d., b., \$59.
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$150, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	530 p. ct. prem.=
Insurance—		[\$787½, buyers
Canton	\$50	\$181, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$76, buyers
China Traders'	\$25	\$57, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$295, sellers
North-China	\$25	Tls. 165, sellers
Straits	\$20	\$1.
Union	\$50	\$255.
Yangtze	\$60	\$121, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$50	\$178, buyers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$11, sales & sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$254.
West Point Building	\$50	\$48, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$36.
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$250, buyers
Gt. Estn. & C'donian	\$3	10 cents
Do. Preference	\$1	40 cents
Jebebu	\$5	\$11, sellers
Queen's Mines Ld....	25c.	\$17, cents, buyers
Oliver's Mines, A....	\$5	\$3.
Do. B....	\$4½	\$2½, sellers
Punjom	\$8	\$5, sellers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$1.
Raubs	16s. 10d.	\$53½, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$20½, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila ...	\$50	(\$65, old sellers
"		(\$18, sellers
China Mutual Pref.	\$10	\$11, buyers
China Ordinary	\$10	\$10 10s., buyers
Do.	25	25 5s., buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$50, sales
H., Canton and M....	\$15	\$30, sales
Indo-China S. N. ...	\$10	\$85, buyers
Shell Transport and		
Trading Co.....	\$100	\$300, sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$18, sellers
"		\$4½, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co....	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$3	\$3.
United Asbestos	\$4	\$9½, sellers
D.	\$10	\$20.
Wanchai Warehouse...	\$37½	\$60, buyers
Watkins, Ld.	\$10	\$10, sales
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$15½, sellers
Universal Trading		
Co., Ld.	\$5	\$5½, buyers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON.—Chusan (str.), Alcious (str.),
Glaucus (str.), Prometheus (str.), Java (str.).
FOR MARSEILLES.—Annam (str.), Sado Maru
(str.), Yarra (str.).
FOR LIVERPOOL DIRECT.—Hector (str.).
FOR BREMEN.—Prins Heinrich (str.).
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Kontsberg (str.),
Saskia (str.), Sibiria (str.), Serbia (str.), Bamberg
(str.).
FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Olympia (str.).
FOR VANCOUVER VIA SHANGHAI.—Empress of
Japan (str.).
FOR PORTLAND, O.—Argyll (str.).
FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—Coptic (str.), America
Maru (str.), City of Peking (str.).

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 31st August.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/0½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/0½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/0½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/0½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/0½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/0½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.56½
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.61½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.09
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	49½
Credits, 60 days' sight	50½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	152½
Bank, on demand	152½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	152½
Bank, on demand	152½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	2 p.c. pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	122½
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	3½ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	3 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	60
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	9.80
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	51.50
BAB SILVER, per oz.	28½

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 31st August.—Freights, coastwise, are weak, with very little demand for tonnage. From Saigon to Hongkong, two charters have been effected at 14 cents per picul and no further enquiry at present, rice being scarce; to Java, 37 cents per picul last; to Philippines, 35 cents per picul. From Java to Hongkong, 32½ cents per picul is offered, dry sugar; Newchwang to Canton, two steamers have been closed at 39 cents per picul, which satisfies present demand. Japan coal freights.—Mojito to Hongkong, \$3 per ton, weak; to Singapore, \$4 is offered. Mororan to this, \$3.75; to Singapore, \$5. Sailing vessels.—The American ship *State of Maine* has been chartered to load here for New York, terms private. The American ship *Adolf O'Brig* is reported fixed in New York to load at this port for New York or Baltimore.

The following are the settlements:—

Westgate—British ship, 1,814 tons, proceeds Puget Sound under orders from owners.
Carmanian—British ship, 1,773 tons, proceeds San Francisco under orders from owners.
State of Maine—American ship, 1,467 tons, Hongkong to New York, private terms.
Bengloe—British steamer, 1,333 tons, Nagasaki to Singapore, \$4.25 per ton.
Tientsin—British steamer, 1,250 tons, Moji to Amoy, \$3.50 per ton.
Daphne—German steamer, 1,415 tons, Kuchinotzu to Swatow, \$3.25 of Hongkong, \$3 per ton.
Benedi—British steamer, 1,481 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$3.25 per ton.
Macedonia—British steamer, 1,045 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$3 per ton.
Taishun—American steamer, 1,216 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 39 cents per picul.
Apenrade—German steamer, 611 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 39 cents per picul.
Nanyang—German steamer, 1,060 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 14 cents per picul.
Taichong—German steamer, 828 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 14 cents per picul.
Quarta—German steamer, 1,146 tons, Saigon to one port north coast Java (32,000 piculs), 37 cents per picul.
Gloucester City—British steamer, 1,409 tons, three ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 32½ cents per picul.
Quarta—German steamer, 1,146 tons, two ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 33 cents per picul.
Benvenue—British steamer, 1,468 tons, Iloilo to Kobe or Yokohama (35,000 piculs), 35 cents per picul.
Decima—German steamer, 794 tons, monthly, 1 month, private terms.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

August—	ARRIVALS.
24, Daphne, German str., from Nagasaki.	
24, President, British bark, from Fremantle.	
25, Maine, British transpt., from Southampton.	
25, Progress, German str., from Tournon.	
25, Palamotta, British transpt., from Calcutta.	
25, Itinda, British transport, from Shanghai.	
25, Kungping, Jap. str., from Shanghai.	
25, Urlana, British transport, from Taku.	
25, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.	
25, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.	
25, Indravelli, British str., from Amoy.	
25, Siam, British str., from Saigon.	
25, Thales, British str., from Swatow.	
25, Lawada, British transport, from Calcutta.	
26, Hsinchi, British str., from Canton.	
26, Aspern, Austrian cr., from Pola (Austria).	
26, K. Elizabeth, Austrian cr., from Singapore.	
26, Patalia, British transport, from Calcutta.	
26, Salamis, British transport, from Sydney.	
26, Ernest Simons, French str., from Y'hama.	
26, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.	
26, Munchen, German str., from Sydney.	
26, Kaifong, British str., from Cebu.	
27, Taisang, British transport, from Shanghai.	
27, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.	
27, Tamba Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.	
27, Keongwai, German str., from Bangkok.	
27, Clara, German str., from Haiphong.	
27, Zamania, British transpt., from Woonung.	
27, Ujinta, British transport, from Calcutta.	
27, Tiger, German gunboat, from Kiel.	
27, Isis, British cruiser, from a cruise.	
27, Kalgan, British str., from Moji.	
27, Liv, Norwegian str., from Kutchinotzu.	
28, Queen Adelaide, British str., from Moji.	
28, Nairung, British transport, from Calcutta.	
28, Loksang, British str., from Hongay.	
28, Mausang, British str., from Sandakan.	
28, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.	
28, Kurfurst F. Wilhelm, German flag-ship, from Singapore.	
28, Brandenburg, German cr., from Singapore.	
28, Hela, German torpedo-boat, from Spore.	
28, Woerth, German cruiser, from Singapore.	
28, Weissenburg, German cr., from Singapore.	
28, Comete, French gunboat, from Swatow.	
28, Else, German str., from Bangkok.	
28, Bittern, British schr., from Rajang.	
28, Azov, Austrian str., from Moji.	
28, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.	
29, Chiyuen, Amr. str., from Canton.	
29, Salasia, French str., from Marseilles.	
29, Benclutha, British str., from Swatow.	
29, Formosa, British transport, from Bombay.	
29, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.	
29, Matiana, British transport, from Taku.	
30, Diamante, British str., from Manila.	
30, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.	
30, Independent, German str., from Samarang.	
30, Loyal, German str., from Bangkok.	
30, Hamburg, British ship, from New York.	
30, Petriana, British str., from Palampapan.	
30, Radnorshire, British str., from London.	
30, Toonan, Amr. str., from Chefoo.	
30, Australian, British str., from Sydney.	
30, Rohilla, British str., from Yokohama.	
30, Kweiyang, British str., from Hongay.	
31, Pentakote, British transport, from Taku.	
31, Chusan, British str., from Shanghai.	
31, Ningpo, British str., from Moji.	
31, Lightning, British str., from Calcutta.	
31, Sumatra, British transport, from Calcutta.	
31, S. Rickmers, Brit. str., from Palam Rang.	
31, Emeralds, British str., from Cebu.	
31, Kungping, Japanese str., from Canton.	
31, Peluse, British str., from Amoy.	
31, Pakahan, British str., from Samarang.	
31, Virawa, British transport, from Taku.	
August—	DEPARTURES.
25, Sirha, British transport, for Calcutta.	
25, John Pender, British str., for Shanghai.	
25, Duke of Portland, British transport, for Calcutta.	
25, Fazilka, British transport, for Welhalwei.	
25, Charterhouse, British str., for Amoy.	
25, Zweona, British str., for Manila.	
25, Taifu, German str., for Nagasaki.	
25, Anapa, British str., for Moji.	
25, Carmanian, British ship, for San Francisco.	
25, Peluse, British str., for Amoy.	
25, Ad. Nachimoff, Rus. cruiser, for Tientsin.	
25, Vorenij, Russian Volunteer Fleet, for Shanghai.	

25, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 25, Riojun Maru, Jap. str., for Seattle.
 25, Bengloe, British str., for Nagasaki.
 25, Onsang, British str., for Singapore.
 26, Tamsui Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 26, Tiger, Norw. str., for Kutchinotzu.
 26, Shini Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 26, penrade, German str., for Newchwang.
 26, City of Rio de Janeiro, Amr. str., for San Francisco.
 26, Benledi, British str., for Moji.
 26, Decima, German str., for Taku.
 26, Kyoto Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
 26, Palamocotta, British transport, for Taku.
 26, Itinda, British transport, for Calcutta.
 26, Urtana, British transport, for Calcutta.
 26, Antillian, British transport, for Taku.
 26, Lawada, British transport, for Taku.
 26, Malacca, British str., for Shanghai.
 26, Rhipeus, Dutch str., for London.
 26, S. P. Hitchcock, Amr. ship, for New York.
 27, Ernest Simons, French str., for Europe.
 27, Isis, British cruiser, for a cruise.
 27, Hanchi, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Kungping, Jap. str., for Canton.
 27, Patiala, British transport, for Taku.
 28, Alcinous, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Zamania, British transport, for Calcutta.
 28, Isis, British cruiser, for Amoy.
 28, Teenkai, British str., for Manila.
 28, Marie Jøbsen, German str., for Java.
 28, Telemachus, British str., for Amoy.
 28, Decima, German str., for Taku.
 28, Tamba Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.
 28, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 28, Daphne, German str., for Nagasaki.
 28, Wongkoi, German str., for Hoihow.
 28, Tainan, British str., for Sydney.
 28, Pakhoi, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Arratoon Apar, British str., for Calcutta.
 28, Ujina, British transport, for Taku.
 28, Carthage, British hospital ship, for Weihaiwei.
 29, Iris, American collier, for Manila.
 29, Aspern, Austrian cruiser, for Shanghai.
 29, K. Elizabeth, Austrian cr., for Shanghai.
 29, Empress of India, British str., for Vancouver.
 29, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.
 29, Nanchang, British str., for Sourabaya.
 29, Benelutha, British str., for Canton.
 29, Kwanglee, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Esang, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Tiger, German gunboat, for Shanghai.
 29, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
 29, Salazie, French str., for Shanghai.
 30, Formosa, British transport, for Taku.
 30, Matiana, British transport, for Calcutta.
 30, Braemar, British str., for Portland.
 30, Progress, German str., for Tournon.
 30, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 30, Hongkong, French str., for Hoihow.
 30, Crown of Arragon, British str., for Natal.
 30, Siam, British str., for Amoy.
 30, Indravelli, British str., for New York.
 30, Macedonia, British str., for Moji.
 30, Nairung, British transport, for Taku.
 30, Woerth, German cruiser, for Kiaochow.
 31, K. F. Wilhelm, Ger. flagship, for Kiaochow.
 31, Brandenburg, German cr., for Kiaochow.
 31, Weissenburg, German cr., for Kiaochow.
 31, Hela, German torpedo-boat, for Kiaochow.
 31, Comete, French gunboat, for Canton.
 31, Salamis, British transport, for Weihaiwei.
 31, Clara, German str., for Haiphong.
 31, Pronto, German str., for Saigon.
 31, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Palamocotta*, from Calcutta, Lt. Johnson and Lt. Pattenson.
 Per *Thales*, from Swatow, Rev. G. Johnson.
 Per *Lawada*, from Calcutta, Capt. Edwards and Cooper, Surgeon-Capt. Cleveland.
 Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Capt. R. P. Leary, Messrs. M. A. Bassity, J. McCarthy, J. Grollhammer, Julius de la Rosa, J. M. Asencio, R. P. McDermid and Moulur.
 Per *Ernest Simons*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Miss Fletcher, Messrs. Peterson, H. Vrygen, Lunostrom and J. Series; from Kobe, Mr. John Haroie; from Nagasaki, Mr. Tai Lay; from Shanghai, Messrs. S. Gray and C. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. Gogner, Rev. P. Etellin, Messrs. Colombo Pasconen, del Juvris, Benague, Cochanti, Spenses, Ellam, Mouchen and Chas. S. Coy; for Saigon, from Yokohama, Messrs. Sandigier and

Gillon Auguste; from Shanghai, Mr. Mauri; for Singapore, from Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Fichelman, infant and amah, Miss Kinashita, Miss Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Warren; from Shanghai, Messrs. Bernard Weber and Watt; for Suez, from Shanghai, Mr. Salamond; for Port Said, from Kobe, Mr. Vernander; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Messrs. A. Dutilleul, A. Witzeg, Casaris, Oveido and Robert Cohen; from Kobe, Lieut. Matelot du Pascal, Messrs. Beller, Desmenil, Chanal, Schen, Morachini, Pascalet and Crosse; from Nagasaki, Mr. Magnusheski, Mrs. Akorshewa, Mrs. Maks Ulioni, Mr. Pasarg, Mrs. Didier, Mrs. Russell, Messrs. Panin and Porkon; from Shanghai, Mr. Jokoloff, Mrs. Desquiers, Messrs. Vossy Bourbon, Garnier, Alexander Dewar, Berjani, Mr. and Mrs. Dugasta, Messrs. McLolland, Boatide Celestin, Qualite Louis and Desquiers and infant.
 Per *Kaifong*, from Cebu, Lieut. Croft and Mr. Ernesto Jalondone.

Per *Tamba Maru*, from Singapore, for Hongkong, Messrs. W. H. Russell and E. P. Hayes, Mrs. Shellabear and child, Master H. Shellabear, Miss Margaret Shellabear; for Yokohama, Messrs. G. Kuwada, K. Takayanagi, T. Murai, Mr. and Mrs. Christenson.

Per *Nairung*, from Calcutta, Major Giles, Capt. Tigh, Lieuts. Gray and Finnis, Capt. Murray, I.M.S., Capt. Turner, I.M.S., Sub-Com. McWalters, Staff Sergt.-Major Wright and Mr. I. R. Reed.

Per *Mausang*, from Sandakan, Mr. Keywood, Mr. and Mrs. Rahmall.

Per *Bittern*, from Rajang, Mrs. Askin and child.

Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Captain Clancharty, Masters Siemssen (2), Smith and Rozario, Miss Santos, Mr. and Mrs. Lopes, Mrs. Danenberg, Mrs. Primrose, Mr. T. Howard and 279 Chinese.

Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Mrs. M. Monroy, Mr. and Mrs. Skeel, Rev. W. S. Hornsby, Mr. W. K. Henk, Mr. and Mrs. Lee and two servants, Mr. O. G. S. Lane, Mr. Lowe, Lieut. Comr. N. T. K. Patch, U.S.N., Mr. R. Iarno, Mr. M. Fernandez and Master Davis.

Per *Formosa*, from Bombay, Lieut.-Col. J. W. Hogge, (Capt. H. J. Jones, Capt. Richardson, Capt. Barff, Lieut. Carter, Lieut. Swinley, Lieut. Gough, Lieut. Franklin, Lieut. Waterfield, Lieut. Storr, 2nd-Lieut. Talbot, Lieut. Battye, Major A. F. Hogge, Capt. A. T. Shaw, Capt. Seddon, Lieut. Meolus, 2nd-Lieut. Hall, Lieut. Beamish, Capt. Ozzard, Lieut. Anderson and Major Graham.

Per *Salazie*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Mrs. de Canielle and Mr. Rebiere; from Djibouti, Mr. Makam; from Colombo, Mr. Rowand and servant; from Singapore, Miss H. Chayas, Mr. McCarthy and servant and Mr. Barrowdale; from Saigon, Mrs. and Miss Gourlaouen, Messrs. Rotily, J. Johnstone and Bennecke; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Messrs. F. Mourio, Galy, Lange, Mertensen, Thomsen, Cucherat and Desoguy; from Saigon, Mrs. de Villiers, Messrs. Rousseau and A. Rayner; for Nagasaki, from Marseilles, Rev. Bois; from Saigon, Mrs. Deschanet; for Kobe, from Marseilles, Rev. Marmonnier; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Capt. Bellicacq, Lieut. Radenar, Com. Fleurac, Mr. Boutin, Capt. Helleringer, Colonel Regis, Capt. Bourguignon, Capt. Breuille, Mr. F. Romero Cadra, Capt. Rivet, Lieut. Rideau, Com. Pourrat, Mr. Valet, Capt. de Haurelocque, Capt. Mathy, Capt. Descourtis, Messrs. G. Noma and Ran In, Com. Fujimouro, Com. Matsui, Lieut.-Col. Valette, Messrs. Adam and St. Girons, Com. Raymond, Capt. Merignon-Lucas, Lieut. Servagnar, Capt. Haureon, Lieut. Esepert Besanson, Lieut. Brawe, Com. Michard, Capt. Porous, Brunet, Gendron, Messrs. Dye, Ludolushe, Signoret, Rev. Rappfer, Messrs. Hirata, Chotellier, Chapuis, Chignuet, and Bentelli.

Per *Diamante*, from Manila, Misses H. Wallace and L. Ebnore, Mrs. L. Griffiths, Mrs. J. Clemens, Miss Leona Wouprinia, Messrs. L. H. Phillips, Basa, R. Panina, H. C. Johansen, F. Auquado, A. Nasquez and 193 Chinese.

Per *Rohilla*, from Japan, Messrs. E. L. Lakin, B. Lakin, W. L. Wilson and N. A. Block, Mrs. Omayo Kida, Mrs. Brutton, child and amah, Mr. and Mrs. Sahaf Bashi.

Per *Austalian*, from Sydney, Messrs. H. S. Kempthorne and H. H. Wilson, Dr. Brausby Roberts, Miss Brausby Roberts, Miss Crumpe,

Messrs. E. K. Charrington, J. R. Dadds, Chas. E. Dadds, E. Sloper, C. E. Shields, Lucas, Miss Williams, Mrs. J. W. Wolf, Miss Wolf and Miss A. Wolf; from Queensland, Mr. Litt and Miss Westrop; from stranded steamer *Futami Maru*, Mr. B. H. Smith, Capt. and Mrs. N. E. Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. H. Percy, Capt. Com. N. Tanaka, Mrs. L. Jephson, Mr. H. A. Cooper, Mrs. Cooper, Messrs. Sprague and F. Frauks, Capt. Shinomiya, Mr. E. C. Orme, Miss H. Brown, Miss Pasley, Miss Macphail, Messrs. Singleton, R. W. Henderson, Y. Saito, Purser S. Kaage, Doctor T. Takagawa, K. Okabe, K. Yagi, S. Oyaki, Y. Ochiai, N. Matsuno and S. Matsuo.

DEPARTED.

Per *Weimar*, from Japan, for Penang, Mrs. H. Okiwa, Mrs. Omina, Mrs. S. Tayshui, Mrs. T. Katanki and Mrs. F. Okiwa and child; for Deli, Mrs. S. Sohogaschino; for Naples, Mr. Achicus; for Genoa, Prof. Dr. G. Volkens, Prof. Dr. R. G. Watkins, Messrs. Dreesmeier, A. Gwozdowski and Mrs. H. Radzimska; for Antwerp, Mr. Johnson; for London, Mrs. Brown and child; for Hamburg, Dr. Kaempf, Messrs. C. B. Kaempf, Y. Priory, R. Klanko and Eichhorn; from Shanghai, for Singapore, Mrs. Way and child, Mrs. T. Tatlock and Mr. J. Tatlock; for Genoa, Mrs. A. Neubert, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Hooper and Mr. E. Closson; for London, Mrs. J. F. M. Drummond and child, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Calver, Mr. and Mrs. Pognall, Mrs. J. Webster and Mrs. Downie and child; for Hamburg, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Lindberg and child, Mr. and Mrs. Berg and children, Misses Prytz, Fogelklou, Holth, Engstrom and Sundeberg; from Foochow, for Southampton, Miss Bourroughs; from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Hayashi, Messrs. G. M. Bain and G. E. Wilson; for Naples, Rev. G. Croster; for Hamburg, Capt. P. Lassen, Messrs. Stangaard, Richelsen and H. Pohlenbeck.

Per *Preussen*, for Shanghai, from Bremen, Messrs. R. Muller, Robt. Muller, Hartwig, Pahlow, Schweimar and Hellmers; from Southampton, Messrs. W. A. Simmons and G. Peace; from Genoa, H. E. Mum von Schwarzenstein, Messrs. H. Hagge, E. L. Rhein, F. v. der Goltz, Baron Bollen, Messrs. C. Mathiasen, J. L. Rohde, Dobrow and E. C. Young; from Naples, Mr. H. v. Osnobischin; from Colombo, Messrs. J. Muller and I. Seidmann; from Singapore, Inspector Meissel, Messrs. S. Rowell and A. Schwartz; from Hongkong, Messrs. H. Borner, M. Rhode, A. H. Duffner, Leach, Thomson, A. R. Leake, F. Reiber, Angelo, Kempf, T. Gonzales, O. Dwerf and F. Lengwenhardt; for Nagasaki, from Hongkong, Mr. C. Kubayashi; for Hiogo, from Bremen, Miss F. Wehrmann; from Genoa, Messrs. A. Kuhn and J. Kuhn and family; from Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. A. Marques; for Yokohama, from Genoa, Messrs. Ed. Dettmann and K. Pieper; from Hongkong, Mr. A. H. Duffner and Mrs. Meissel.

Per *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for Shanghai, Miss K. Pereira, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Borch, Miss Borch and Mr. J. Marschall; for Nagasaki, Mr. T. Tsuno; for Yokohama, Mrs. S. F. Macie and Mr. A. H. Hewitt; for San Francisco, Messrs. C. S. Armstrong, L. W. Winton; for London, Mr. R. Dawson, Mrs. Stokes, Messrs. W. R. Macpherson and Otto Liman.

Per *Ernest Simons*, from Hongkong, for Saigon, Messrs. L. N. Jackson and Y. Quentel; for Singapore, Right Rev. Bishop J. M. de Carvalho, Revs. S. S. de Souza and J. Gonsalves; for Marseilles, Mr. L. Boyle, Capt. R. P. Leary, U.S.N., and Rev. Blondel.

Per *Empress of India*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mrs. C. E. Holworthy and two infants, Mrs. H. E. Wadman, Mr. F. M. Cama, Mrs. Acheson and two children, Miss Steele, Messrs. J. Kuhn, C. H. Lammert, Louis Leins and Geo. Grove; for Nagasaki, Lieut. E. Croft and Mr. R. D. Ormsby; for Kobe, Mr. D. S. Carmichael; for Yokohama, Mr. F. L. Menderhall, Capt. W. E. Clement, Messrs. W. J. Southorn, H. M. Sh. Esmail, R. A. Gubbay and Capt. A. Tillett; for Tacoma, Mrs. Shellabear and three children; for Toronto, Rev. and Mrs. Jno. E. Fee; for San Francisco, Mr. P. Daniel; for London, Mrs. and Miss Mast and Asst.-Paymaster H. J. Hargreaves.

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